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J. W. Atkinson



PUBLIC ADDRESSES, ETC.,

OF

Geo. W. Atkinson, LL. D., D. C. L.,

Governor of West Virginia,

DURING HIS TERM OF OFFICE.

---

EMBRACING A VARIETY OF PUBLIC QUESTIONS.

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## SPEECH

*of Hon. George W. Atkinson, at Parkersburg, West Virginia,  
accepting the Republican nomination for  
Governor of West Virginia.*

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*July 22nd, 1896.*

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(Reported stenographically by Mr. Frederick Scott, of Charleston.)

MR. CHAIRMAN, AND GENTLEMAN OF THE CONVENTION:

This is the first time I was ever nominated for Governor, and you have scared me well nigh to death. (Applause and laughter.) I am an American citizen, and I am a Republican because I am an American. (Applause.) As your nominee for Governor, I stand to-day for patriotism, for protection and for prosperity. I stand for the McKinley bill or its equivalent, and I also stand for "Bill" McKinley. (Applause.) I stand by my own State as against all other States in the Union; I stand for my own people as against all other people; I stand for my own country as against all other countries and governments on God's green footstool. I would be less than human, my fellow-citizens, if I were not moved with gratitude and thankfulness for this expression of confidence which you have this day reposed in me. I am amazed over the oneness of sentiment with which you have selected me as the standard bearer of the Republican party of West Virginia, the greatest and grandest political party of our times and of all times. (Great applause.) With your undivided support,—and I know I will have it—(Voices: That's right) I will carry your flag to victory. If God spares my life and health, at the setting of the sun on the 3rd day of November next, I will ascend the steps of your capitol at Charleston and will plant triumphantly the banner of protection, of reciprocity and of honest money on the dome of that magnificent edifice. (Loud and continued applause.)

This, my fellow-citizens, is the fullness of my faith. I believe that I can make good this promise more than that, I believe I will do it. How will I do it? I will do it by the undivided vote of the Republican party of West Virginia whose candidate I am to-day, backed by those men who have hitherto voted the Democratic ticket because of prejudice, but who will vote that way no longer, but will henceforth cast their ballots to restore prosperity to our common country by re-establishing the great principles of protection to American industries and American labor, and restoring also the great doctrine of reciprocity with all of the sister republics of the new world as originated and developed by that peerless statesman James G. Blaine. (Loud and continued applause.)

The voters of West Virginia and of the United States of America have tried protection and they have also tried free trade, and I speak my honest convictions today, my countrymen, when I say that at the approaching election a tremendous majority, largely made up of former Democratic voters, will favor the restoration of protection and reciprocity. (Applause.)

Four years of free trade and Grover and his clover, was enough for the people of this country for a hundred years to come. They have tried free trade and it has been found wanting. The promises and pledges of 1892 made by the free trade end of the Democratic party have not yet materialized. They promised us prosperity and they gave us instead idleness and soup houses; they promised us bread and they gave us a stone; they promised us fish and they gave us serpent; they promised us good times and gave us instead desolation and despair; they promised us a tariff for revenue only and they gave us instead a tariff for deficiency only. (Applause.)

They promised us to fill the treasury of the nation, Mr. Chairman, with money, but they have filled it instead with a vacuum almost as boundless as the sea; they promised us statesmanship, and gave us instead demagoguery; and I say it with somewhat of a degree of diffidence Mr. Chairman, yet it is true, there is not a six foot statesman in Mr. Cleveland's cabinet; not one of them in statesmanship is over four feet tall. For the past four years or nearly so, they have been squinting out of the keyholes in the White House at Washington, instead of throwing the doors wide open and looking out into the face of the wide world with common sense and ordinary statesmanship. They



are so narrow in their outlook and so prejudiced against the principles and polity of the Republican party that they would not recognize it, but with Tillman's pitch-fork they cast the whole of them aside in a heap. Like Samson of old, of whom you have read about in the Bible, they were foolhardy enough to pull down the great edifice of protection, knowing that they themselves of necessity must be crushed in the fall. Their political skins are so tight on their political bodies that they cannot shut their eyes. (Applause and laughter.) We will close their eyes for them on the 3rd of November next. (Laughter and applause.) Under God and by the help of former Democratic voters who are independent enough today to cast aside their ancient prejudices and will vote for loin steaks instead of rump cuts, we will bury them so deep that Gabriel's trumpet can never resurrect them. (Great applause and laughter.) Already Mr. Chairman, the voters of the United States are determining that at the approaching election in November, they will bury the free trade end of the Democratic party and the free silver contingent of that old party, like the old Scotch Presbyterian lady said she would bury his satanic majesty—face downwards, so that the more he scratched, the deeper down he would go. (Loud laughter and applause).

The most of you are familiar with Bible history, and I feel sure quite a number of you will remember that Belshazzar, the King, gave a great feast at Babylon, on the Euphrates; and while he and his lords were eating and drinking and revelling, the Medes and the Persians, under the command of Cyrus the Great, came upon them and captured the city. While Belshazzar was drinking, his ancient enemies, the Medes and the Persians, changed the channel of the Euphrates river and shut off the supply of their water from the city, and when their water supply was shut off they had to succumb. (A voice: Did'nt he have any beer?) And when the triumphant Republican party of West Virginia enters the citadel of Democracy in this State on the fourth day of March, next, it will be like Cyrus' entry into Babylon. The Democratic party has struck the sciatic nerve of the pocket books of millions of the people of this country, and when they struck that tender nerve something had to be done. More than that, this doctrine of wielding the magic wand of free trade which has been held in the hands of the leaders of the Democratic party of this country for more than a

quarter of a century, has cut off the supplies of millions of our people, and when they struck the nerve of the pocket-book and the nerve of the pocket, the people were excusable for croaking and squealing, if you will allow me the expression of the street.

In the statistics of commercial failures, of strikes and lock-outs and of shrinkage of products, the record of the Democratic party of the United States of America stands forth unparalleled and unprecedented as the party of wreck and ruin. The Democratic party is now and always has been the party of wreck and ruin, while the Republican party is now and always has been the party of progress; the party to assume the great responsibilities of the nation, and to settle them. This, my friends, is the genius of the Republican party. It despises evasion, it detests compromises, it rejoices in opportunities. No, men of West Virginia, I beg of you to hear me; I beg of you to pitch your tents among the throng of the living and not among the graves of the dead. The Republican party is the party for young men to live in, and for old men to die in. (Applause.) It keeps its face to the future and grapples only with living issues, while the Democratic party, like the evil bird of prey, with dead issues forever hanging from its beak, whose dark and gloomy pathway is only dimly lighted by the smouldering camp fires of the party of progress. Ours is the party of the living; theirs is the party of the dead.

Mr. Chairman, what a great getting down stairs there will be on the fourth day of March, next, when the triumphant Republican party of West Virginia turns on an eight inch nozzle in the various State institutions of West Virginia. (Applause and laughter.) The present incumbents who have been in office so long that they feel like they own the outfits, will register the fastest time that has ever yet been made upon the American turf. The records of Nancy Hanks and Ten Eyck and Maud S. will be so far eclipsed by these individuals that the famous racers referred to will never be heard of again. I suggest, Mr. Chairman, modestly and cleverly, of course, that they had better start now, lest those of them that are string-halted and a little lame might be overcome in the maelstrom of the coming political avalanche.

Our illustrious fellow citizen, the Hon. William L. Wilson, of West Virginia, two years ago, or a little over, partook of a Belshazzar feast in London. It was true he ate but one dinner

with old John Bull, but the viands were so strong and the wine was so hot that somehow or another they threw brother Wilson into political cramps; and strange to say, that Belshazzar feast in the city of London, inoculated the Democratic party of the United States with an incurable disease, which is called, in medical parlance, the black vomit; and stranger still, Mr. Chairman, it is a fact that the high priced wines and high priced brandies which have been imported from foreign countries under a reduction of the tariff duties in the Wilson-Gorman law, which you know they claim was gotten up expressly for "the poorer classes of this country," has failed to relieve the cramps or check the vomit. I tell you, my friends, salt peter and burnt brandy won't save them. But don't be deceived; the Democratic party is not entirely dead; it ought to be, but it 'aint. It is wind-broken and ring-boned and spavined, and string-halted and is badly broken down in the pastern joints; but because it is hip shot, don't for a moment imagine that it is dead. It will bob up serenely when the ring-masters and bosses of the old party crack the party whip and inject cocaine into its wind-galled and splinted and spavined legs.

The voters of the United States, Mr. President, will never let that old, effete party, get back into power again in this country in your day and mine. Somehow it won't die and get out of the way of human progress. It is like the hydra-headed monster of fiction, when you cut off one head others will grow out on the stumps. (Laughter.) It is like the poor, it is always with us. We will have to watch it like Uncle Ephraim said when watching for the possum. He said, "I'se been cotchin' possums nigh unto forty years, and I'se going to stay right here with this gun in my hand 'till I cotch dis possum, and when I cotch him, I'se gwine to dump him into de skillet, kase you never knows when a possum is dead or is only foolin wid you." (Loud laughter). This is our year to win. I see the hand-writing on the wall yonder, written in characters so plain that he who runs may read it. It is addressed to William J. Bryan, Grover Cleveland, and the balance of that class of modern statesmen: "MENE, MENE, TEKEL, UPHARSIN;" Thou art weighed in the balances and are found wanting. Thou hast been faithful over nothing, not even a few things; henceforth, a back seat in the synagogue is good enough for you. (Applause.) These illustrious statesmen are trying to hide behind



one another. There is Mr. Bryan, dodging in behind Mr. Wilson, Mr. Wilson is hiding behind Mr. Gorman, and Mr. Gorman is hiding behind Mr. Carlisle, and Mr. Carlisle is hiding behind Mr. Cleveland, and Mr. Cleveland is hiding behind himself, and old John Bull is hiding behind the heap. (Laughter.) And I speak the God's truth, for I believe it, not one of them to-day, except Mr. Bull, knows where "he is at." (Laughter.)

We can carry West Virginia this year; will we do it my countrymen? (Loud cries of Yes, yes.) You have placed your standard in my hands and I promise you here and now, I will leave the hottest trail all over West Virginia that ever a democrat put his nose to. My fight, like that of the Spartans of old under Leonidas at Thermopylae, will be for victory or the grave, and I know my fellow citizens you, all of you, will stand by me shoulder to shoulder, (Cries of That's right, that's right, we will) elbow to elbow, from start to finish. I am a Republican Mr. Chairman, from hat to heels, and I promise you that I will talk protection and reciprocity and honest money from Hancock county to the Big Sandy, and from McDowell county to the rock-ribbed hills which hem in the historic valley of the Potomac on the east. More than that; the hustings will be open to all comers, and I pledge you that I will stand upon the Republican national platform adopted at St. Louis. I will stand upon that platform sink or swim, live or die, survive or perish. (Loud and prolonged applause.) The tide of public sentiment is coming towards the Republican party upon all these great questions. Some years ago I stood out yonder at the Golden Gate beside the sighing sea, and standing there for a few moments I could not tell whether the tide was coming in or going out; but standing a little longer, I saw the mighty waves come rolling in, rolling in with awful and apparent irresistible force, and then they would strike the beach and break to pieces, and recede again, foaming, splashing, seething and white-capped back to their home in the mighty deep. Standing there a little while longer, I saw those lashing waves chase one another toward the beach, and I observed that each time they struck the shore they climbed higher and still higher in the sands upon the beach. Then I knew for a certainty that the tide of the great, broad, blue, grand Pacific ocean was coming in and was not going out. So standing here to-day in the presence of this magnificent audience of my own

fellow citizens of West Virginia, and upon this vantage ground of truth, and looking out over this vast country of ours, I say to you to-day candidly and earnestly and honestly, that the great tide of public sentiment upon the questions of protection to American industries and American labor, and of reciprocity and of honest dollars, whether gold dollars or silver dollars or paper dollars,—that the tide of public sentiment upon all these great questions is coming toward the Republican party and is not going out. (Great applause).

There is still another question to which I desire to allude. The Democratic party has hitherto,—and you know it is true—can always be depended upon to hook up to every craze that the modern political magician can devise. Its policy has been anything to beat Grant. It is for 16 to 1 this year; and the Lord only knows whether it will be for 1 to 16 next year. I have been in political life for over a quarter of a century, and during all that time the Democratic party has blocked the pathway of progress by denouncing everything good or bad that the Republican party has ever done during that period. It is the monumental denouncer of the nineteenth century. It denounced Abraham Lincoln as a rail splitter and a usurper. It denounced Grant as a tanner and a tyrant. It denounced our soldiers as Lincoln hirelings, and under Hoke Smith it denounced our soldiers entitled to pensions as paupers and frauds before the world. It denounced the Republican party as greenbackers during the war period, and you will remember in the '70's it endorsed greenbacks as the best money the world had ever seen, and went so far as to advocate the rag baby as their little God, just as that old party is now denouncing us for not wanting the free and unlimited manufacture of fifty cent dollars in this country. It denounced the Republican policy of protection as unconstitutional. It denounced the McKinley Bill, and now it denounces Bill McKinley. It denounced reciprocity as a delusion and a farce, and denounced the Republican party for accumulating a surplus in the treasury of the Union with which to pay off our national debt; and you will remember, my friends, that during the twenty-eight years from the close of the war up to 1893, when we turned this government over to the Democratic party, we had paid off in that time one billion eight hundred million dollars of our public debt, besides paying the running expenses of the government and the

interest on the balance of the debt. Did you ever hear, Mr. Chairman and fellow citizens, of a surplus in a Democratic treasury? Never. The only way they can get a surplus in their treasury is by borrowing it, as Mr. Cleveland is now doing; and still they go ahead in this denouncing business, and it seems to do them a power of good. I am happy to-day to see that they have gone into the laudable business of denouncing themselves and the Chicago platform. Cowboys to the front; statesmen to the rear; exit Hill and Whitney; enter pitchfork Tillman and Altgeld of Illinois. (Applause.)

Now this same old party is denouncing the Republican party for having changed front on the money question. It has done nothing of the sort. The Republican party stands to-day exactly where it stood in 1873, when the standard of value was changed from silver to gold as the unit of measure. It has made no change whatever. The Republican party stands for bi-metallism; as in contra-distinction to gold or silver mono-metallism; but it is forever and eternally opposed to the free and unlimited coinage of silver at 16 to 1. (Applause.)

All I ask of you is this; whenever a Democrat comes to you upon this question of money, just say to him, I remember your promises of 1892, when you promised the people of this country that your free trade policy would bring us an era of prosperity such as this country had never seen. Not a single promise has been fulfilled. If you could not trust a man in the past, how are you going to trust him in the future? If you cannot trust a party in the past by its past acts, how are you going to trust it in the future?

One word more and I am done: It is too hot to talk to you today, yet I would like to talk two or three hours if I could. They tell us that the Republican party has accomplished its mission. I want to say to you that it has accomplished many missions, but it has not accomplished its one great mission. In its infancy it accomplished a mission by bringing California into the great sisterhood of states, undefiled by human slavery and adorned like a bride in the glitter of her golden promise. In its earlier manhood it accomplished another mission, that of preserving intact our Constitution, and our flag, which were bequeathed to us by the fathers of the Republic. Under God, Mr. Chairman, and the leadership of Abraham Lincoln, (the biggest, bravest, brainiest man of our time and of all times,) it



struck the shackles from the limbs of four million human bondsmen and made them free; and today, thank God, nowhere beneath the shadow of the American flag, can there be found the footprint of a single slave. (Applause.) It is now, in the dignity of its manhood, accomplishing another great mission, that of establishing for ourselves and our posterity forever the great principles of protection to American industries and American labor, reciprocity and honest money of the nine different kinds which we have in circulation, so that we can hand them down to posterity as an untarnished heritage for all coming time. These great principles have made this the most wonderful government beneath the circle of the sun. No, Mr. Chairman, the Republican party has not accomplished its mission yet, nor will it go out of power until the pernicious doctrine of English free trade, and the no less pernicious doctrine of the free and unlimited coinage of silver are buried so deep that the pick axe of the ages cannot dig them out of their graves of oblivion.

When the Republican party goes down, it will go down protesting in the language of the Apostle to the Gentiles, "I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith." With a platform upon which every honest American citizen can stand, and with candidates worthy of its great name and history, a majority of the liberty loving, law abiding mass of the United States, will in the future as in the past, stand by and endorse the principles of Lincoln and Grant, and Hayes and Garfield, and Arthur and Blaine, and Harrison and McKinley,—the principles of the Republican party which have made our government the foremost nation beneath the stars. I thank you again and again my fellow citizens for the honor which you have conferred upon me today. (Loud and prolonged applause.)

## INAUGURAL ADDRESS

*of Governor George W. Atkinson, of West Virginia.*

*March 4, 1897.*

FELLOW CITIZENS OF WEST VIRGINIA:—

To the political party to which I have the honor to belong, and I trust to all the people of the State, this is an auspicious occasion. For twenty-six years the Democratic party has had exclusive control of our State Government. In a Republic it is not best that any political party should be kept in power too long. I do not mean to convey the idea that continued power necessarily bring about dishonesty in the management of public affairs; but I do mean to say that any party, when too long in authority, necessarily becomes opinionated, and drops into ruts from which it cannot easily extricate itself. To get into the habit of thinking only in one particular channel, in acting one way, and doing everything in the selfsame manner, is disastrous to any individual, or class of individuals, and to a Government—State or National—as well. A Government is simply an aggregation of individuals, and whatever affects an individual citizen affects the Government in the same manner and in the same degree. Running in grooves will stunt, fossilize and necessarily render any individual lopsided. The same is true of any organized body of men, and of a State also. A lopsided, one-ideaed man is by no means an ideal citizen, even if he is not dangerous to the public weal; and the same is true of a lopsided political party. Hence, I say—and I do not desire to be considered as reflecting upon our Democratic friends, who, for more than a quarter of a century, have had exclusive control of our State Government—that it is far better for all of our people, as well as infinitely better for the State itself, that we have, politically speaking, after this long lapse of years, “hung our gate on the other post.” I am sure that we will lose nothing, and I trust that all of us, both Republicans and Democrats, will profit by the change.

In West Virginia we have the elements of a great State. Her

natural advantages are perhaps superior to those of any other State in the Union. It behooves us, therefore, as good citizens, without regard to our political creeds or party affiliations or predilections, to do everything in our power to forward her interests, and to encourage her development, that we may enable her to reach the place that a beneficent Providence intended her to occupy,—the forefront of the great States of the American Republic. It shall be my purpose in this patriotic work, to use my utmost endeavors to bring her vast resources to the attention of men of enterprise and wealth in the other States of the Union, and to do everything in my power to encourage her development, and thus advance the interests of all our people.

To me, personally, my fellow citizens, this is a great occasion, and one, I trust, I most thoroughly and fully appreciate. To be selected, without opposition, by the great political organization to which I have always had the honor to belong, to the first place within the gift of the citizens of my native State, and to be elected by a majority considerably in excess of that given to the Chief Magistrate of the Nation, who is also of my own political faith, and whose name was on the same ticket with my own, are compliments and honors which any one should most fully appreciate. I am, therefore, profoundly grateful to my fellow citizens for the high honors they have so cheerfully and willingly conferred upon me.

Born and reared upon the sacred soil of your State, my interests are yours, and your wishes shall be mine. My utmost endeavors, I promise you, shall be exerted to administer our laws carefully, thoughtfully, fairly, impartially. I am a Republican, and everybody in West Virginia knows it, but as your Governor, your chief executive officer, I shall be absolutely impartial in the enforcement of the law.

In the distribution of patronage, I shall serve my party first; but in the execution of the trusts placed in my keeping by the people of my State, I shall know no party, class, race, or creed. My intention, therefore, is to be fair and just and impartial in the execution of the laws of the prosperous Commonwealth of West Virginia. In all public business transactions, therefore, a Democrat will be as welcome at the State House as a Republican.

I desire here and now to assure my friends of all political parties, that it shall be my aim and purpose to require an honest



and economical administration of all of our public institutions. I have selected for Directors and Regents of these various institutions, the very best men within the limits of our Commonwealth. No Board appointed by me shall be without minority representation, whether the law requires it or not. With humiliation I have seen more than one of our great State Institutions crippled and handicapped by partisan manipulations. I have seen our University, which ought to be greater than it is, wholly under the control of one political party for almost a generation. It pained me as a citizen to see it many times grossly mismanaged and cramped and hampered in the great work it was designed, by the law, that it should do for our people. For a score or more of years not a representative of the minority party was allowed upon its Board of Regents. This was wrong—forever wrong. That condition will never occur again. If the law did not require it, I would give the minority party fair representation on the Board of Management of its affairs.

Above all other things, politics should not be allowed to enter into our educational institutions. Under my administration, there will be no politics in our schools, from the infant department to the University, if my wishes are consulted. The people may depend on this. If I can prevent it, no teacher will be dismissed, if he is competent, because he is a Democrat, nor will one be employed simply because he is a Republican. The age in which we live is too enlightened to allow anything like this to be done. Because our educational work has been prostituted to political purposes in the past, is no reason why it should be done in the future. It will not be done, if it is in my power to prevent it, and I do not arrogate too much to myself to say that I believe it is in my power to estop it, should it ever be attempted.

Since the State University was placed under non-partisan control two years ago, it has almost doubled in its attendance of students, and in its usefulness in educational work. Its curriculum is equal to any like school in the West or South. It shall be my purpose to do everything in my power to double its growth and usefulness during my administration. It is not claiming too much to say that this can be done. It is not arrogating too much to say that it will be done. Competency and efficiency will be the only requirements for its faculty. The question will not be asked as was the custom in a large part of

the past quarter of a century, "does the applicant with systematic regularity vote the Democratic ticket?" I do not disparage men from voting the Republican ticket, but that will not avail them anything when they apply for a situation in our schools, unless they are otherwise educationally qualified for the positions they seek. These pledges, my fellow citizens, I will faithfully carry out.

Much stress was placed upon corporations by our Democratic friends during the last campaign. Upon this question my views were expressed freely and without reserve all over the State. I never could see any good reason why an incorporated body of men should be prosecuted or persecuted simply for the reason that it is a corporation. I am not now, nor was I ever an attorney for any corporation; but I have always sought to be fair with all individual citizens and all incorporated bodies as well. I have invariably opposed trusts, and I always shall; but when a number of men form themselves into a corporate body for proper business purposes, I never felt it to be my duty to throw obstacles in the way of their success. On the contrary, I have invariably deemed it to be my duty to aid them in all proper undertakings. West Virginia can never be developed without the encouragement of all such movements and enterprises as these. It is a mistake to create prejudice against men who organize for legitimate purposes and pursuits. Instead of fewer corporations in West Virginia, we need more of them. Instead of crushing out those we already have, it is our duty to invite others to come among us to aid us in the development of our almost inexhaustible natural resources. It shall be my unswerving aim to be fair and just towards all individuals and corporations who may come to West Virginia during the next four years, to cast their lots with us, and become citizens of our growing and prosperous Commonwealth. I will therefore take no stock now or ever in the nonsensical cry of "down with the rich men and corporations." Such talk is anarchy, and anarchy will never secure an enduring foothold in our "Switzerland of America." The anarchists have said that they will blow us up. We will blow them up. Our civilization is too far advanced for our people to tolerate such a sentiment in West Virginia as that. Do not misunderstand me. I am not willing to surrender either our rights or our territory to trusts or monopolies. On the contrary, I promise carefully to guard the

interests and the property of our people against the encroachments of monopolies and trusts. No trust owns me. Neither do the anarchists. I am wholly divorced from both of them, and always expect to be, and always intend to be.

I shall require from our State Boards careful, economical and honest administration. I have chosen, as I have already said, the very best men in the Commonwealth as members of these Boards, and I have not sought to dominate them in the appointment of subordinate officials. As far as in my power lies to prevent, there shall be no mismanagement of any of these institutions, or misappropriation of the public funds of the State.

My observations in the past teach me that honest men will perform their public duties faithfully. For all these Boards I have selected men of the highest character and of established business qualifications, and I shall expect at their hands faithful administrations of these public trusts. In this connection I desire to pay proper tribute to my immediate predecessor, who, in my judgment, has done his very best to place our State institutions on a higher plane than that of spoils.

I have in mind a number of suggestions as to needed amendments of our laws relative to our State institutions, which I will embody in my first message to the Legislature.

One of these suggestions is the establishment of a curriculum in our present so-called Normal School at Huntington. We have no real Normal School in our State. We ought to have one. Our laws contemplate such a school, but unfortunately we have none. We should have one distinctive school of pedagogy. A Normal School contemplates the education of teachers and nothing but teachers. By all means we should have one such school in West Virginia. Our so-called Normal Schools are only academies. We need, above everything else, a real Normal School for the training only of teachers. I hope to see the day when we shall have such a school in our State. We can have it. We must have it. We will have it. It may not be established during my administration, but in the fullness of time it will come.

Another of these suggestions is the broadening of the scope of our State University. Its plan of work is not in accord, in many respects, with what it should be, to enable it to do the best possible work in educating the young men and women of



our State. There is a higher and broader field for it to occupy, which it has not hitherto included within the scope of its possibilities.

Another of these suggestions is a regular and authorized officer under the law, a chaplain to the State prison at Moundsville. In my judgment, it is a blot on West Virginia's good name that she has no one duly authorized to give his undivided time to the moral and spiritual natures of the men confined in that institution. These criminals are entitled to our careful consideration. We are derelict, if we fail to do anything and everything in our power to reform and regenerate these unfortunates.

Another of these suggestions is an exact geological survey of our State. Such survey is the only means of giving to us a thorough knowledge of our great natural resources, which will enable us to prove authoritatively all that we claim for West Virginia.

Another of these suggestions is the complete equipment of an Immigration Bureau, by which alone we can, by the authority of the State, present all of our natural advantages to those who are seeking homes, and who might come among us and cast their lots with us, if we can hold out proper inducements to encourage them to come.

Still another of these suggestions is, whether it is wise to maintain the Irreducible School Fund, with a view of providing for the general educating of the children of the future, or whether this fund, already accumulated, shall be used, by proper distribution, for the education of the children of the present generation.

I am unalterably and forever opposed to everything like sectionalism. I am a Virginian, but at the same time, I am an American. In my estimation, the Nation is greater than a State. I stand for the United States first, and for West Virginia next. I yield to none greater admiration for my native State; but with me it is always the United States first, and West Virginia secondly. The whole is greater than a part. The General Government is bigger than any one of its constituent parts. I trust I shall always be big enough and broad enough to see beyond the integral to the whole.

I am sincere, my fellow citizens, when I say that I believe West Virginia is entering upon a new era of unparalleled pros-

perity. With seventeen thousand square miles of the best coal territory on the face of the earth; with oil and gas deposits thus far unequaled; with forests superior to those of any of our sister commonwealths; with a climate which cannot be excelled; with scenery for beauty and grandeur unsurpassed; with a school system as good as the best; with courts fearless in the enforcement of the law; with Churches full abreast of the times; with as noble a class of natives as any on which the sun has ever shone; and with railroads building in, through and across our borders; with all of these advantages, why may I not conclude that there is a great future before us as a people and a State?

From our developing resources, we may look for money enough for all our needs, and with which we may be able to lift all of our public institutions to a higher plane of usefulness.

West Virginia has not always had a big treasure chest overrunning with gold, but as her resources increase it would be folly for her to be contented with the methods that were absolutely necessary in the past. Internal improvements, well patronized and subsidized schools, carefully provided and thoroughly equipped penal and charitable institutions, good roads, bridges, and all things of that sort, not only add to the comfort and incite to the development of a State, but they pay for themselves every day in the conveniences they afford. The Mountain State started out in life with little heritage but boundless loyalty and broad acres. She is making progress as fast as she can, with the assurance that every year will be better than the last.

My fellow citizens, appreciating fully the responsibilities you have placed upon me by your suffrages, and asking from one and all your aid and your sympathies to enable me to discharge my public duties faithfully and well: and invoking the Divine blessing upon all of us in our public and private relations, I am now ready to take upon myself the oath of office, and assume the responsibilities and burdens as the Chief Executive of our State.

## WEST VIRGINIA.

*Specially Written for The Tradesman Annual, No. XVIII., by  
His Excellency, Geo. W. Atkinson, Governor of West  
Virginia.*

(From The Tradesman, Chattanooga, Tenn., January, 1897.)

The industrial outlook for the South, it seems to me, is especially hopeful.

The "New South" idea is taking deep root in northern sections where capital is more abundant, which, coupled with the natural advantages of nearly the entire southland, over much of the northern and all the eastern portions of the republic, will very soon bring about an industrial development hitherto unprecedented and unparalleled. Already several stubborn obstacles to the industrial development of our southern territory have been removed.

I am sure capitalists feel more favorably disposed towards our Southern States as a field for investment than ever before. Northern men of means are beginning to understand that we of the South have profoundly at heart the general welfare, and especially the industrial progress of all other sections of our country as well as our own; and this naturally brings with a willingness on their part to invest their money with us, and thus lend a hand to enrich themselves and aid us to help ourselves along the lines of growth and progress.

No one State in the South has made more rapid progress within recent years than has West Virginia, all things considered, and none presents a more inviting field for investment. The State is almost a solid bed of bituminous coal, and millions of acres of her domain are yet virgin forests of the most valuable timber of many varieties.

Though the work of developing these rich resources has been going on for several years and much capital has been invested, yet it may be said that scarcely a beginning has been made, and thousands upon thousands of acres of the richest coal lands in America are yet untouched. Of the 17,000 square miles of coal territory, but a very small proportion has been



opened, and the development of what is to be a vast lumber industry is only in its infancy. In addition to all this, and other mineral resources besides coal not yet developed, the valleys, and even the hill sides, of West Virginia, are as fertile as the blue grass region of Kentucky, presenting an inviting field for the home seeker, the small farmer and the grazer, most of the State being especially adapted for wool growing.

So much has been written about the wealth of West Virginia's resources that it is scarcely necessary here to do more than to refer to them. However, in behalf of the claim that the future of the State is bright with promise, I may be permitted to summarize briefly a few of the advantages presented to investors. In the first place no State in the Union has a more desirable climate. The mean annual temperature ranges from 54 to 55 degrees and the maximum is rarely above 95, while the rainfall is from 40 to 50 inches annually.

### *The Resources.*

The timber which covers the State, not over thirty per cent. of the land being cleared, is wonderful in variety and quality and value. The forests are rich in chestnut, black walnut, cherry, ash, poplar, hickory, locust, maple, oak, white pine, yellow pine, hemlock, spruce and cedar.

Only a small portion of the 17,000 square miles of coal territory has been developed and yet the State already is second in coke production, and will this year take high rank in coal production. There are paying deposits of iron ore in several sections, and recently, in the southern part of the State, a magnificent bed of black marble has been discovered. The finest fire-clay, sand and lime stone exists everywhere. The surface of the land is rich and fertile and adapted for successful farming and grazing. In addition to becoming a great mining center, the State is naturally destined to become one of the greatest manufacturing States in the Union; and already iron and steel works, glass factories, potteries, pulp mills and large lumber mills are springing up and giving employment to many people.

Our educational system is well nigh perfect. We have no State debt. Taxes are low. The people are intelligent, law-abiding and progressive. Most of the industrial development is along the lines of the three great railroads that traverse the

State and their tributary lines. These are the Baltimore and Ohio, the Chesapeake and Ohio and the Norfolk and Western. Other important roads on which great coal, coke, lumber and manufacturing industries are building up are the Ohio River road, the West Virginia Central, the Kanawha and Michigan, the Monongahela River and West Virginia and Pittsburg roads. The vast interior, rich in coal, iron and timber, is yet scarcely touched by railroads, but in the near future it will be, and already capital is looking that way, several roads being projected which will open up a great region, richer even than those which have been developed.

What West Virginia wants most, and will soon have, are capital and better means of ingress and egress. More railroads into the heart of the State will soon make it one of the greatest Commonwealths, in point of wealth and population, in the Union. Two of our principal rivers have been locked and dammed, and we have the Ohio river along our western border, but more of our internal streams should be slacked to accommodate heavy freightage.

A mention of the prospects before West Virginia would not be complete without a reference to the great oil development which has contributed, and continues to contribute, so much to the wealth of the state. This development in the northern section has already reached vast proportions and many fortunes have been made. Prospecting is going on further south, toward the Kentucky line, with almost daily discoveries of new territory.

That West Virginia is destined to be the greatest oil producing as well as the greatest coal producing State in the Union is beyond a doubt. Taking into consideration all her magnificent resources and the fact that capital has begun already to flow in, with other capital making inquiries, mines and manufactories opening everywhere, new railroads being projected, etc., the outlook for the State is more than promising.

As to how the industrial and material interests of the Southern States can be best subserved, my opinion is and always has been that we should extend a warm hand of welcome to men of wealth and enterprise living outside our borders, in sections of country not half so rich as ours, who may be seeking investments and desiring to locate in our midst. I know my own State well enough to say for all our people that any one will be

hospitably received who may come to West Virginia, nor will any legitimate enterprise be hampered by illiberal legislation. This liberal course has been the State's policy of recent years, and every Southern State should pursue a like policy. It pays. Our laws should be rigidly enforced and protection to life and property be guaranteed to every citizen of whatever race or condition. Economy and progressiveness in State government are essentials also.

*The South's Greatest Weakness.*

I consider our greatest weakness in the South the lack of cash capital to open up our numerous resources, and the need of better railroad facilities and improved waterways for purposes of transportation. Large investments are rarely made except in localities that are within railroad angles of competition. Whether it is true or false, manufacturers generally believe that it is unsafe to build a mill or factory at a point not touched by more than one railroad.

Hence, large numbers of railroads, crossing or tapping one another, if natural advantages are at hand, will cause the construction of like large numbers of industrial enterprises. More railroads mean more mills and factories, mines and forges. More facilities for getting in and out mean more thrift and enterprise and wealth, and the South, in many localities, is deficient in all of them.

Another drawback, which, however, is by no means general in the South, but is confined to some localities, is an apparent lack or respect for law and order. I firmly believe that this alone has done us great injury, and has been a serious hindrance to our growth and prosperity. Happily, our courts are more vigorous in the punishment of crime than they have been in former years, and this great impediment to our development is each year growing less. Sectional feeling, too, which was an outgrowth of war between the States, has rapidly disappeared, and with the wiping out of the last vestige will come the new era for which we have all been hoping.

The question of how immigration to the South can best be promoted is capable of a wide discussion, and yet it is simply answered. Each Southern State must keep constantly before the people of the whole country, as well as before foreign capital, as far as it may be done, the natural advantages which



each possesses, and urge men of enterprise and means to come and see for themselves and verify our representations. In other words, we should advertise what we have to sell or trade.

Every State would gain largely by having a competent Commissioner of Immigration, and legislatures should provide reasonably liberal appropriations to meet the legitimate expenses of keeping up such an establishment. And finally, as intimated above, prejudices of every and all kinds against men of Northern birth should be buried so deep that the pick-axe of the ages could not dig them out. The cry of "carpet bagger" should never again be heard in the land.

We should take a new citizen by the hand with as much warmth and favor as if he were a native born. In the West every man who has been in the State a year is placed on the same footing with those that are native born. This is right. If our Southern people would act in that manner the population of the South would double in a score of years.

In advertising to the world what we have to offer and in inviting capital and homeseekers to come and cast their lots with us, we should not be over modest.

In fact, we could scarcely be extravagant in presenting our claims, for we have been richly blessed by the Creator with natural resources that are but awaiting the magic touch of capital to bring forth abundant fruit.

Let the world know that we have a land the fertility of which promises rich reward for the industrious farmer and planter; that our mountains are stored with mineral wealth untold, which needs but the money of the enterprising investor to be developed; that we have the finest timber in the Union; that no better climate on earth exists; that our people are hospitable, intelligent and law-abiding; that our public school system, our colleges and universities afford educational facilities which are unsurpassed; that our social and religious advantages are as good as the best, and that the whole wide world presents no finer land, no more inviting field for home and industrial life.

GEORGE W. ATKINSON.

## FARM MACHINERY

*Twenty-Five Years Hence, by the Governor of West Virginia.*

(From Farm Machinery, St. Louis, Mo., February 16, 1898.)

State of West Virginia, Executive Chamber,  
Charleston, December 27, 1897.

Mr. C. K. Reifsnider, Editor "Farm Machinery:" Dear Sir:—Your letter of the 6th inst. was mislaid, and I have just come upon it. I regret the delay. The development of the agricultural resources of the United States, during the last twenty-five years, has been marvelous. I attribute this growth, principally, to two facts, namely:

First, the use of improved agricultural machinery, and

Second, the education and intellectual development of the people.

In those States where farm lands are comparatively level, one man, with modern farm implements, can do the work of perhaps half a dozen who pursued their avocations the old way. Now-a-days, farmers cut their wheat, mow their hay, and plow their corn riding in sulkies, so to speak. These methods render farming comparatively easy, and necessarily, make it more profitable. Looking backward twenty-five years, I can scarcely imagine what the coming quarter of a century will bring to our people in the way of improved methods in agricultural pursuits. It may be that a large part of farm work, in the years to come, will be done by electricity and electrical appliances instead of by what we now term "modern methods."

My own State has made wonderful headway during the past two decades. Our farm lands and buildings have increased in value fifty per cent. Implements and farm machinery, nearly one hundred per cent. Our product in corn has nearly doubled. Irish potatoes have increased two hundred per cent. Hay, nearly one hundred per cent. Apples and other fruits have more than doubled in the past twenty years. We are moving forward at a steady rate in our farm interests, and our growth is largely attributable to new methods of farming and the use of improved farm implements. Very respectfully,

G. W. ATKINSON, Governor.

## “THE NEW OLD DOMINION.”

*Remarks by Governor G. W. Atkinson, of West Virginia, before the Marquet Club Celebration, February 12, 1897, at Auditorium Hotel, Chicago, Illinois.*

MR. TOASTMASTER AND GENTLEMEN:—In the “New Old Dominion” old things have passed away and all things have become new. We dig coal in that prosperous Commonwealth; we don’t dig silver. Consequently, when we voted last fall, we decided that it wouldn’t pay us to close our coal mines for the purpose of aiding Mr. Bryan and the silver kings to open up their silver mines in the sage brush of the north-west. The “Mountain State,” therefore, in the campaign of 1896, hung her gate on the other post, and she has hung it there to stay. The “Old Dominion” herself would have done the same thing, if a fair and impartial expression of her voters had been recorded. Both of these States are sick and tired of “Solid South” isms. Both of them are endowed with natural advantages beyond perhaps those of any of the other States. West Virginia, my friends, is the eternal center of coal and gas and oil and timber and of stalwart Republicanism also. Unfortunately, for more than a quarter of a century, our State government had tied us to the South, with which section we had no trade or community of interest, thus preventing us from forming alliances for progressive development with the States north and east and west of us, that possessed wealth and enterprise which otherwise would have been ours at our bidding. But thank God, the Gordian Knot has been cut, the shorelines have been parted, and we are now launching out upon the great sea of Republican progress. The sun doesn’t shine upon a nobler and braver people than the rugged mountaineers of “The New Old Dominion.” They have been shamefully hampered in the past by faithless leaders, who appealed only to their prejudices and their passions. The masses, therefore, must not be blamed for that. At last the scales have fallen from their eyes. They have turned over a new leaf in the diary of time. They have wiped out forever the imaginary line which divided the North



from the South. Go there with me to-night, and they cannot tell you where the North ends or the South begins, nor can you discover it yourselves. From this time forth we are with you, heart and soul, in any and every movement which stands for good government, good citizenship, and a healthy and vigorous development of a genuine American policy. I would have you bear in mind, my friends, that West Virginia stood loyally by President Lincoln through all the years of our fratricidal war, and it was during his administration that she was brought into the great sisterhood of States.

Any intelligent man, it seems to me, who has carefully studied the facts and conditions of the campaign of 1896, must be convinced that the triumph of sound money is final, and can never be reversed in those States that gave pluralities to the Republican party. No one can say that there was anything hap-hazard or accidental in the verdicts that they rendered at the polls. A renewed contest will increase, instead of diminish the majorities in all of those States. That issue was sprung only as a vote catcher—a sort of a political rabbit's-foot with which to hoodoo the people. It spread at first like a prairie fire; but when reason, experience, common sense and the ordinary rules of business were applied to it, its deceptive hollowness was readily seen. It was hollower, even, than the heads of the men who sprung it as a National issue in politics. It raged for a time like a cyclone, but it passed away, and will not, in my judgment, return again to haunt us in your day or mine.

The tariff is the only real great issue in the American Republic. Whether we shall keep the fires blazing in our own furnaces, coke ovens, factories and forges, instead of rekindling those in foreign countries as was done by the existing tariff law, is the great, vital question before the American people to-day. The employment of our own labor upon our own soil, for the purpose of working up our own raw materials, and keeping our money at home instead of sending it abroad to purchase foreign manufactured articles, and by this means of employment enrich and develop our own country and advance the interests of our own people, is a proposition so plain and reasonable that any one—even a Democrat—ought to see and understand it. They do see it. The voters saw it on the 3d day of November last, when they rolled up almost a million majority for protection to American labor, American manufactures and

American farmers. It is true that the money question was paramount in the discussions, but the tariff, my friends, was the under-tow that swept McKinley into the White House. The "New Old Dominion" is for both Protection and Sound Money, and she is safely moored in the Republican harbor for a generation to come.

Free trade and free silver may be thrust upon us again as temporary campaign issues, but they will again go down. Doubtless Democratic leaders may have the temerity to again insist that the Republican party has accomplished its mission, but it can not be established. It has accomplished many missions, it is true, but its real mission is yet unfulfilled. In its infancy as a party, it accomplished a mission by neutralizing the effects which followed the repeal of the Missouri compromise, by saving freedom to the Territories of the great northwest, and bringing California into the sisterhood of States, undefiled by human slavery and adorned like a bride in the glitter of her golden promise. In its early manhood it accomplished another mission during four years of fratricidal war, by declaring, that in the future as in the past, we will have but one constitution, one flag, one destiny. Under God, it accomplished another mission, when Abraham Lincoln, who was the greatest, biggest, broadest, brainiest, bravest man of our times, and of all times, whose memory we celebrate to-night, broke the shackles from the limbs of four million human bondsmen and made them free; and to-night, thank God, nowhere beneath the shadow of the American flag can there be found the footprint of a single slave. Standing as it has always done for the greatest principle which our political economy can possibly teach, namely: The protection of American industries and American labor, it also accomplished another great mission. And in the last campaign it accomplished still another important mission by standing, as it did, in the dignity of full fledged manhood, like a stone wall, for good government and sound money. Its real mission will not be accomplished until free trade and free silver and all other isms and idiosyncrasies of so-called modern Democracy are buried so deep that the pick-axe of the ages cannot dig them from their graves of oblivion. When the Republican party goes down, it will go to its grave exclaiming, as did the great Apostle to the Gentiles, "I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith."

The Republican party is a party of the living and not of the dead. To act, to assume responsibilities, to confront emergencies, to go at every problem to solve and settle it—this is the genius of the Republican party. It despises evasion. It detests compromises. It rejoices in opportunity. Endeavor is its element—opposition its quickening spirit. It is the party for young men to live in and for old men to die in. The Republican party keeps its face to the future and grapples only with living issues, while the Democratic party, forever protesting, follows in its wake, and its darkened, gloomy pathway is dimly lighted by the smouldering camp-fires of the party of progress. Our party lives in the present—the other in the past. The Republican party has never failed to meet every issue squarely. It has never failed to fulfill all of its promises to the people. Why, my friends, for more than a quarter of a century, nearly every line of American history is but the life story of the Republican party.

Not one of the material pledges and promises of the Democratic party made to the people in 1892 has been fulfilled. They promised us bread and gave us a stone. They promised us fish and they gave us a serpent. They promised us good times, and gave us desolation and despair. They promised us a tariff for revenue only and gave us a tariff for deficiency only. They promised us to fill the National treasury with money, and filled it instead with a vacuum bigger and broader than the boundary of your magnificent city of Chicago; and they tell us in the East that it embraces a big slice of the rich cornfields of the great State of Illinois. There are only two animals on the earth that can live wholly on wind—one is the horned frog of Texas, and the other is the modern Democratic party of the United States. A political party that had the nerve to insist on this great government of ours going into the business of the free and unlimited manufacture of 50 cent dollars, ought to be pickled in alcohol, and preserved as a curiosity and a freak for the people to look upon through all the generations that are to come after us.

In conclusion, my friends, I remark again that the Republican victory of last year was complete and enduring. With a platform of principles upon which every true American could stand, and with a candidate worthy of its great name and history, there was welded together into an unconquerable army,



an overwhelming majority of the liberty-loving, law-abiding voters of the Republic, who, in the future as in the past, will be found advocating the principles of the political party of Lincoln and Grant and Hayes and Garfield and Arthur and Harrison and Blaine and McKinley—the great Republican party which has placed the United States in the front rank of the nations of the earth.

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## ADDRESS

*of Governor Atkinson, accepting an American Flag presented  
by the Junior O. U. A. M. to the Benwood,  
W. Va., Public School.*

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*February 22, 1897.*

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(From the Wheeling Intelligencer.)

The North Benwood public school was the scene of a great demonstration Saturday afternoon at 2 o'clock, in recognition of Washington's birthday, and the presentation of a large American flag by the Red, White and Blue Council of Junior Order of American Mechanics, of McMechen.

The exercises began at 2 o'clock, under the direction of the superintendent of the school, assisted by Miss Dare and other teachers. There were a number of patriotic recitations and songs by the children, which evidenced care on the part of the teachers in drilling them for the occasion.

Rev. G. W. Grimes, of Moundsville, on behalf of the McMechen Council, presented a large flag to the school. His speech was chaste, patriotic, and at many points was really eloquent. It was exceedingly appropriate for the occasion. At the conclusion of Rev. Mr. Grimes' address, Hon. G. W. Atkinson, who had been selected by the school board, responded as follows:

My friends, this is a year of undisputed Americanism in our Republic. This is a year above all others within my recollection, when the flood-tide of patriotism has touched its highest

point in the heart of the true American citizen. This is the year, my fellow citizens, when the American flag hangs the highest, floats the grandest, is the most respected, and is loved the dearest by all of our people, than at any past period of our Nation's history. Truly Patrick Henry builded wiser than he knew, when he said: "I hail the day as not far distant when it will be regarded the proudest exclamation of man, 'I am an American.'" That day, my friends, has fully come.

All patriots rejoice that organized bodies of men all over this country have made it their duty to teach patriotism to the rising generation by unfurling flags from our public school buildings on the anniversary of the birth of the Father of Our Country, and allowing these flags to become the property of the schools, without money and without price. All honor to such patriotic, liberty-loving bands of men.

On behalf of the board of trustees and teachers of this public school, I accept this elegant star spangled banner to-day, and in receiving it, I am sure I speak for these school officers and teachers when I say that they will honor it more and serve the principles it represents better than they have ever done before. I declare, my friends, that our free schools come short of their duty, if they fail to teach patriotism to our children, because reverence for our flag is the life-blood of the republic. Lieutenant Cummins, at Chicamaugua, spoke for all patriots, while leading his company in a charge upon the enemy, lost one of his legs, and as he fell, cried out, "I'll loose the other, boys, if you'll carry our flag to victory;" and they did it.

My fellow countrymen, the century that is quietly, but grandly rolling out, is the greatest of all the centuries of the ages. It has been great in achievement, great in development, great in conquest, great in loyalty to principle, great in culture and refinement, and great in patriotism also. Some of the old centuries were wonderful in the physical prowess of many of the nations, some in literature and poetry, and some in music and in art. When this century opened its portals and let its light shine in upon the new Continent, the Old World was arrayed in arms. Blood was sprinkled upon almost every doorway, and women were weeping at their fire-sides. But the new century brought us an era of peace, which, barring two small "brushes", hovered o'er us for more than fifty years. And while the present century like the last is going out amid clouds of war, yet

the warfare in which our American people engaged was not a warfare for greed or gain. On the contrary, it was for the liberation of mankind. Wars for spoils only are passing with the sweep of the years. In these days of higher civilization such conflicts are detested by the great mass of mankind. These modern times have grown too good and great and strong to allow the spread of empire by the sword. On the contrary, patriotism and peace are now on the highest tide of the world's history, and it will sweep on to universal victory.

True patriotism calls for a parliament of peace. When men went into battle with spears and swords, they could afford to fight; but with the modern implements and weapons of warfare, all brave nations are practically invincible. War, therefore, is brutal now, and should be classed as a crime against civilization. In their stead have come parliaments of peace. To these the great nations are coming with their flags, and they will be stacked together as they talk over misunderstandings, and arrange for closer and more intimate relations for the future.

My countrymen, how much of pain has ceased because of this enlightened civilization. How marvelously learning and liberty and law have prevailed. No blood, no sorrow, no tears. The simple thought of this condition makes us love our own flag all the more. As we bring our starry emblem and plant it in these parliaments of peace, we are reminded that it was first unfurled by our fathers against the mistress of the ocean world, and

For it they fought, for it they fell,  
And their oath on it was laid;  
To it the clarion raised its swell,  
And the dying warrior prayed.

It was bequeathed to us by the patriots of the Revolution, and preserved for us and our posterity by the patriots of 1861 to 1865. It is ours by inheritance, and we will stand by it forever.

My friends, the watchword of the coming century will be, peace, not war; patriotism, not disloyalty; education, not ignorance; work, not shirking; sobriety, not drunkenness; honesty, not greed, and lend a hand to all that is good and ennobling. This will bring to all mankind a golden age such as the world has not hitherto seen.



The hope of the future is the public school of to-day. It is the basis of patriotism and the bulwark of liberty. The degree of the education of our children will gauge the degree of the civilization of the State. Educated masses make peaceful masses. Education has ever been the gauge of progress. Humanity is uplifted wholly by it. There is no growth in any thing without it. Every dollar spent by the State in educating its citizens is \$2.00 saved in actual outlay to keep the peace and maintain the law.

More education, fewer police officers; more school houses, fewer almshouses; more school teachers, fewer convicts; higher conceptions of religion and duty follow the higher education of all classes. Education and religion move hand in hand, therefore, the State should foster both.

As American citizens we should hold it as a first duty to stand by our public schools. They are schools of patriotism, and the man who attempts to pull them down is not a true American, not a true patriot. Every public school building is a natural pedestal for an American flag, and it is supremely proper that the stars and stripes should kiss the breeze from the top of every one of them.

As an American, I rejoice that there is a growing admiration for our national ensign and our national institutions. Patriotism has had a wonderful up-lift in these closing years of the nineteenth century, and our patriotic organizations have had much to do in building up this sentiment.

Sail on, thou glorious ship of State,  
Sail on, thou Union strong and great;  
Sail on, nor fear to breast the sea,  
Our hearts, our hopes are all with thee;  
Our hearts, our hopes, our prayers, our tears,  
Our faith triumphant o'er our fears,  
Are all with thee, are all with thee.

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The speeches were applauded vigorously, and were highly appreciated by the large audience. The McMechen brass band furnished music for the occasion.

## ADDRESS

*At Memorial Service of Mound City Lodge No. 13, I. O. O. F.,  
Moundsville, W. Va., the Late J. L. Parkinson, Esq.,  
Being the Subject of the Eulogy.*

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MY BROTHERS, MY FRIENDS AND FELLOW CITIZENS:

“Come wealth, or want, come good or ill:  
Let young and old accept their part,  
And bow before the Awful Will,  
And bear it with an honest heart.  
Who misses or who wins the prize—  
Go, lose or conquer as you can,  
But if you fail, or if you rise,  
Be each, pray God, a gentleman.”

Thackeray never wrote more aptly than he did in this simple stanza.

I wish to say with emphasis, my hearers, in the outset of my remarks, that our late Brother J. L. Parkinson was pre-eminently at all times a gentleman. Always positive and pronounced in his opinions; always squarely on one side or the other of any and all important questions; always dignified; always conservative; always careful and thoughtful, and yet he was always, in the strictest sense, a gentleman. Such a man is sadly missed when called from the throng of the living. When a king is dethroned the people rejoice, but when a good man dies the people mourn.

The true gentleman is known by his strict sense of honor, by his sympathy, his gentleness, his forbearance, and his generosity. He is essentially a man of truth, speaking and doing rightly, not merely in the sight of men, but in his secret and private behavior. Truthfulness is moral transparency, and is the very centre itself of genuine manhood.

No better description of the Christian gentleman can be found than that given by the Apostle Paul in I Corinthians, XIII, 4-8: “Charity suffereth long and is kind; charity envieth not; charity vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up, does not behave itself unseemly, seeketh not her own; is not easily provoked, thinketh no evil; rejoiceth not in iniquity, but rejoiceth in the

truth; beareth all things, hopeth all things, endureth all things. Charity never faileth."

The late Cardinal Manning, who was wiser than his generation, when speaking at Birmingham of the possible dangers to England, mentioned the four seas and the four virtues. He said he did not put his trust in the four seas—he put none in the silvery streak; but he did place his trust in those four great national virtues—of prudence, which made perfect the intellect; of justice which made the perfect will; of temperance, which taught men to master themselves in the solicitations of pleasure; and of fortitude, which made them strong in suffering and in difficulty.

No man, in all my acquaintance, more fully exemplified in his every day life the four cardinal virtues, to which the great Cardinal Manning alluded so aptly, than did our deceased Brother Parkinson.

The life of man in this world is for the most part a life of contest—a life of toil; but every man worth calling a man should be willing to work. "No one can maintain social respect, honor and responsibility without honest toil." As we have said Brother Parkinson was a gentleman, so also was he a toiler—a worker. He found the secret in early life that work wins, and by that sign he conquered. It cannot be questioned that work is the best of educators, because it forces men into contact with one another, and with situations as they really are. In all the ages the worthiest men have been the most industrious in their callings, the most sedulous in their investigations, the most heroic in their undertakings. Indeed, to the work of hand and brain, the world is mainly indebted for its intelligence, its learning, its advancement, and its civilization. Some men are endowed with inborn genius, with natures quick and agile; but they cannot avoid the penalty of persevering toil. Labor, however, is not a penalty; work, with hope, is a pleasure. St. Augustine aptly remarked, "There is nothing so laborious as not to labor. Blessed is he who devotes his life to great and noble ends, and who forms his well-considered plans with deliberate wisdom." Aristotle once said that happiness is a certain energy, and that most men have opportunities without end for promoting and securing their own happiness. Stray moments, improved and fertilized, never fail to yield brilliant results.

Ruskin insists that "We have among mankind in general the three orders of being: the lowest—sordid and selfish—which



neither sees nor feels; the second—noble and sympathetic, but which neither sees nor feels without concluding or acting; and the third and highest, which loses sight in resolution and feeling in work.”

Always a sufferer, and never physically strong, our deceased brother, as Ruskin says, lost sight of suffering by constant toil and persevering effort. “Not a day without a line” (*nulla dies sine linea*) was the motto of Appelles, and it has been the motto of every man who left his impress upon the times in which he lived. Our brother, long years ago, mastered the secret that everything depends upon will and willingness, and where the will is ready the ways are never wanting. The spring that issues from the mountain crest as a brook, by the accumulation of streamlets becomes a rivulet, then a mighty rolling river, and eventually part of the fathomless ocean itself, simply by pushing steadily and persistently onward. Thus it was with our brother whose memory we are feebly honoring today.

Brother Parkinson had his share of suffering, and more. He learned, however, in early life that although suffering is a heavy plow driven by an iron hand, and while it cuts deeply into rebellious soil, still it opens up to the fertilizing influences of nature that which often results in the richest crops. Even antagonisms of the severest kinds often are man's greatest blessings. They evoke strength, perseverance and energy of character. Thus it is that one's antagonists become his helpers. The Bible tells us that “the lame take the prey.” The weak often prove to be the stronger, because they win the greatest victories. Paul's “thorn in the flesh,” which was supposed to be epilepsy, doubtless caused him to study and think and work in order to keep his mind off his physical infirmity; and Paul, the Apostle to the Gentiles, towers above all other men of his time, and of all times, as the Alleghenies tower above the ant hills of the plains. Richard Baxter, author of “Saints Rest,” never without pain, wrote more books that will live longer than the writings of any other man perhaps, who was contemporaneous with him. George Whitefield, frail and fragile as a flower, was the greatest preacher of his time. John Summerfield, whose utterances were as the voice of an angel, never drew a healthy breath. Sir Walter Scott's best novels and poetry were written while he was prostrate on beds of sickness. Lord Byron, who walked with a crutch, wrote poetry which will be read and ad-

mired as long as the English language endures. The great poet Cowper was half the time insane. Francis Bacon, "the wisest and meanest of men," was weak in body and build. Dante was a dyspeptic. Pope was a hunch back. Homer and Milton were blind when they did their best work. Alexander and Napoleon were striplings. Demosthenes was a stammerer, and hundreds of others equally prominent and distinguished in the world's history, whose utterances and records will endure forever, were disabled, diseased or deformed. Brother Parkinson, although crippled in his youth, held his own with the best minds of his county and his State. The inspired penman was, therefore, pre-eminently correct when he said, "The lame take the prey."

If I were to offer a criticism upon my deceased brother Parkinson to-day, I would say he worked too much. He went down in the prime of life, and had he conserved his strength he might have been spared to his family, his friends and his State for many years to come. To every human creature, nature opens her infinite range of inexhaustible stores of charms. If we only knew how to call our minds off the drudgery of toil, and survey and study her rich variety, examine her proceedings and pierce into her secrets, what a blessing it would be to those persons who are prone to overtax body and brain.

Our deceased brother and friend was wedded to the law. He never could get away from it. Indeed, he never tried. He never allowed anything to draw his attention from his business. His chosen profession, next to his family, was nearest to his heart. Unlike the most of his associates and friends, he would not even allow politics to come between his law-books and himself. He never held but one political office, and that was distinctively in the line of his profession—prosecuting attorney of his county. I myself more than once insisted upon him to become a candidate for political preferment, and the answer he gave me was in terms, if not in words, "get thee behind me,"—I am glad he did not say the rest.

Some men have drifted away from the professions they qualified themselves to ornament and fill, and succeeded in their new callings. Blackstone gave up poetry for the law. Voltaire, and other thousands equally distinguished, threw down the law for letters and the sciences. Others have gone from the law into the ministry, and still others from the ministry into the law. Others by thousands have given up the learned professions

for the weird, wily field of politics, mainly for the fascinations that it brings, and many of them have had, and will have all the balance of their lives to find out the awful mistake they made. But John Lloyd Parkinson stuck to his calling, not veering to the right or the left, wise man as he was, and he never regretted the choice that he made. Would that I could say as much for scores and hundreds of other friends of mine, living and dead.

The last time I talked with him, seeing that he was failing, I told him that all men must have variety and rest; that the great poet Dante frequently exchanged his pen for the painter's brush; that Michael Angelo often went from painting to sonnet writing for rest; that Leonardo da Vinci was many sided in his work; that Rosetti was as great in poetry as in painting; that Sir Humphrey Davy and Wallaston were fly-fishers; Sir Walter Scott was a forester and farmer; Oliver Goldsmith was a tramp; Disraeli and Gladstone wrote books for recreation and rest; Sir John Lubbock gave a portion of his time to the study of ants and bees and wasps as a relief from the sterner duties of life; and Dr. Lyman Beecher, one of the greatest of divines, was a fiddler. In short, that it was a common occurrence for men to drift away from the professions which they had qualified themselves to fill, when they found their health was giving away under the pressure of constant toil.

But all this persuading went as naught. He only laughed and informed me that he preferred to wear out rather than rust out. Thus overtaxing his constitution, which was never robust, he went down just a little while after his sun had reached its noon, whereas with less pressure and toil he might have added a score of years to his useful life. It is, however, next to impossible to curb an industrious, persevering man. He, despite the importunity of friends, will work on until the machinery is exhausted and will lay down his trusts while yet in the harness.

"Some men flower early—some late;" our dead brother was a full blown man, and was only at his best, while just in the early afternoon of life, he answered to the final summons when he was best qualified to grapple with life's sternest problems and be the most useful to his fellow men.

For a number of years past, Brother Parkinson's face was sicklied over with the pale cast of thought. No red-faced man



or woman is bothered greatly with continuous thinking. Shakespeare said, "It's not the red-faced man and fat I fear, but the lean and hungry—they think too much." Any one who would look J. L. Parkinson, when alive, in the face, would promptly conclude that he was a man of affairs, a man of thought, a man able at all times to give reasons for the faith within. Such men wield an influence greater than they know, and rear fabrics about them which will stand for generations after they are gone.

True greatness lies in the consciousness of an honest purpose in life. Every man stamps his own value upon himself, for we are great or little according to our will. Greatness is goodness. The great man is he who does something in his day to make the world better, broader, nobler, grander. The truly great man is the one who believes most in God and loves his fellow man. The greatest man therefore is God's man. Our deceased brother was a Christian, and the true Christian is the highest type of man on earth. No man was ever a great man that wanted to be one. Hence the truly great man is the unostentatious, self denying, conscientious, God-fearing Christian.

John Lloyd Parkinson, son of John and Elizabeth Parkinson, was born at Ryerson's Station, Greene county, Penn., September 3, 1834, and departed this life at Moundsville, West Virginia, February 1, 1895. He moved to Marshall county in 1842; graduated from Waynesburg College, Pennsylvania, in 1858; was admitted to the bar in 1862, and practiced the profession of the law up to the time of his death. He married Miss Mary M. Elliott in October, 1864, and located in Moundsville in 1867. He served two terms as Prosecuting Attorney of Marshall county, and as I have already said, he declined all other political positions. He was for many years Vice-President and a director of the Marshall County Bank, and ably filled the position of local attorney for the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad Company for a long period of time.

Brother Parkinson was a consistent member of the Presbyterian Church at Moundsville for a great many years; was also a member of Mound City Lodge No. 13 of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and had passed all of its chairs. He was also a member in good standing of the National Union, a most excellent, cheap and reliable Insurance and Fraternal organization. Pardon me for saying, my friends, that every man pres-

ent who has a family, owes it to himself and his wife and children to immediately connect himself with this society, or one like unto it, if he has not already done so.

In conclusion my brethren, and friends, let me add a word of exhortation for this greatest of all Beneficiary Institutions, the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. It is great in membership, great in the distribution of its benefits, and great in good works also. It has thrown rays of sunshine and comfort in many a dark, sad home. It has thrown its arms around many a weak brother and held him on his feet. It has kept thousands from ruin and disgrace by guiding them around the pitfalls of sin which yawn for every man's ruin. It has strewn flowers in the pathways of all its loyal devotees. It has stood about the couches of the sick and the dying, has buried the dead, and cared for the widows and the orphans of its members. It lifts above all men the banner of peace, and has been a blessing to the world.

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## ADDRESS

*of Governor G. W. Atkinson, at the Grave of General P. B. Dobbins, a member of his staff, Wheeling, West Virginia.*

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*March 8, 1897.*

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(From Wheeling Intelligencer, March 9, 1897.)

After the reading of appropriate passages of Scripture by the Rev. J. L. Sooy, D. D., and solemn prayer, Governor Atkinson was introduced, and spoke as follows:

*Mr. Atkinson's Eulogy.*

Just how much life means, words refuse to tell, because they cannot. The very doorway of life is hung about with flowery emblems to indicate that it is for a purpose in God's unrevealed plans to one and all. Life may be grand. God intended it to be glorious, so He paved its course with diamonds, fringed its

banks with flowers, and overarched it with stars, while around it He spread the physical universe—suns, moons, worlds, constellations, sublime in magnitude, and grand in order and obedience. In this strange, this wonderful thing called life, every man, every woman, has his or her place. Some lay their life work down early, others later; but sooner or later all must surrender their trusts to God. This brother fell just after his sun had reached its noon.

Man proposes and God disposes. We plan, but our plans are not always for the best, and a wise Providence frequently overrules them. We often wonder why, but that is not for us to know. It is enough for us to know that there is a God supreme, and that all of us should bow submissively to His will. The way is often dark. It is dark to-day for some of us. The pall hangs heavily o'er this household, but God willed it so, and we bow reverently to His decree. When the golden bowl is broken and the silver cord is severed, we pause, we wonder and we weep. We drop our tears, we pour out our sympathies, but tears and sympathy only aggravate the wounds, unless out of the surrounding darkness we can by faith and trustfulness in God, believe that His sunshine will some day drive away these clouds. In this solemn presence I declare my abiding belief in the fatherhood of God and the brotherhood of man; and I declare what I know to be true, and that is that my brother and my friend who lies before me in the cold embrace of death, possessed, in all its fullness, this same saving and abiding faith.

My friends, nothing abides save God and the soul. There is nothing enduring in this world except God and His law. This is the lesson taught by this house of death to-day. What is life? Tell us, friends, from the high abode of death, what is life? We ask this solemn question, and no answer comes back to our waiting hearts. But if life on earth contributes to the life of the soul, we have the confronting assurance that all will be well. If the soul fills well the place assigned to it on the earth, discharges every duty faithfully and well, obeys the commands of the Creator, of one and all, and scatters benefactions, as opportunities offer, for the betterment of the race, such an one, if he have the true spirit of worship, is a child of the King. To one like this, death, however sudden, however terrible in its surroundings, can bring no fear, no sorrowful forebodings; and when the friends and admirers of the stricken one gather to bid



him a last farewell as his soul winds its way from earth, there is joy and there is consolation. A life without reproach is better a thousand times than a life whose record simply means millions of money, or high renown, or power, or authority among men.

"Death does not end all." The first and foremost poet of the Bible, when his heart was bleeding, as ours are today, by inspiration wrote for all the ages, and for the consolation of one and all, that when a man dies he shall live again. This dead brother believed that statement, as all of us believe it. Here, then, we find a balm for these bleeding wounds, and that earth has no sorrow that heaven cannot heal.

My friends, this is a sad day for this once happy home; but there was never a cloud so black that has not a silver lining. My friend and brother, whose untimely death we mourn today, was not a professor of religion. He may not have estimated church life as highly as do many of his friends, but he was withal a man of faith which I believe illumined his soul when he reached the river that all of us must some day cross. Not given to loud professions or vain boastings as to a religious experience, yet deep down in his heart was a well of love and trust which was constant in its flow toward the Savior of mankind. In all his life, he exemplified the big human end of religion by doing right. In this respect his faith was fixed. His purposes were strong. His devotion to the right as unfaltering as the stars. There is nothing more to be admired in this life than a manly man. This dead friend of yours and mine was every inch a man. God never made a truer, nobler, manlier man. He was a friend to all, an enemy to none. To every one who needed aid, he was ever ready to stretch forth a helping hand. He looked up, not down, out, not in, and the world today is better because he lived in it. His unswerving purpose ever was to lift those with whom he associated to higher conceptions of life and duty.

He was also an honest man. None who knew him as did most of us, will question the truthfulness of this statement. Burns told it all in this single stanza:

"From scenes like these old Scotia's grandeur springs,  
Which make her loved at home—revered abroad;  
Princes and lords are but the breath of kings,  
An honest man is the noblest work of God."

He was a brave man also. He had the courage of his convic-

tions. He was a dangerous antagonist, because he could never compromise with his conscience or waver as to a conviction of duty. He always went straightforward. There were no zig-zags, no ins and outs in his public or his private acts. He wore above him the white-flower of a blameless life. His personal character was as spotless as a maiden's, and as unsullied as a ray of light. He was never on both sides of a question at the same time. As God lives to-day and in this solemn presence, I declare, more than any other man I ever knew, this dead friend of mine was true as steel, and would allow his strong right arm to go from him rather than double on any question, either in politics, business or religion. A man like that will live long years after his body has mouldered into dust.

Weaknesses, like all other men, he had. Like all others, he had his likes and dislikes. Like all other positive, honest men, he had opponents and those who sought to class themselves as enemies. But I believe I state the truth when I say he was the enemy of none. Like all others, he made mistakes. Like all others he had his troubles and mishaps. But the good, the pure, the true, the steadfast, the straightforwardness in this dead man's past life, overshadowed his weaknesses as the high hills about Wheeling tower above the bosom of the Ohio as it sweeps past his home on its meandering way to the sea. Living, he asked no compromise with those who opposed him: dead, there will be no utterances of him except those that are good. Such men always leave their impress upon the times in which they live. Such men will be missed, because their places are difficult to fill. When a king is dethroned, the people rejoice, but when a good man dies they mourn his loss.

This afflicted family have around them to-day hosts of loving friends. The warm hands of all our people are stretched forth to comfort them in their sorrow and bereavement. But at best we can do but little in this dark hour of their distress. Words are worthless on an occasion like this. When husband and father is taken, God alone can give comfort and relief. Let us lean upon the promises which the pastor has read from the Master's Word, for they strew the dark pathway to the grave with the promise that death does not end all, and that the upright and the just shall dwell forever in the sweet summer land of rest.

One thought more, and it is this:

"If you and I to-day should stop and lay  
 Our life-work down, and let our hands fall where they will,  
 Fall down to lie quite still;  
 And if some other hand should come and stoop and find  
 The threads we carried so it could wind,  
 Beginning where we stopped; if it should come to keep  
 Our life-work going, seek  
 To carry on the good design  
 Distinctively made yours and mine,  
 What would it find?

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"If love should come  
 Stooping above when we are done.  
 To find bright threads  
 That we have held, that it may spin them longer, find but shreds  
 That break when touched, how cold,  
 Sad, shivering, portionless the hands will hold  
 The broken strands, and know  
 Fresh cause for woe."

Peyton Byrne Dobbins was born in Braxton County, Virginia (now West Virginia), March 3, 1842; was killed in a railroad collision at Loveland, Ohio, March 5, 1897.

He filled many public positions, and filled them well. He possessed the confidence of all, and had the enmity of none. He was my friend and the friend of all the people. He was a good man and true. May his ashes rest in peace.

## GENERAL GRANT DAY.

*Governor Atkinson's Remarks before the Union League, New York City.*

*April 27, 1897.*

MY FRIENDS:—This is one of the memorable occasions in the history of our Republic. In my humble judgment, Mr. President, General Grant was the greatest military chieftain of the nineteenth century, if not, in fact, of all the centuries. He was, like Napoleon, peerless alike in Camp and Cabinet. Like all really great Generals, he was both a General and a diplomat. Like Julius Caesar and Napoleon, he was both general and statesman. His genius was double-barreled—military and civic. He was a commander of men on the field of battle, and in legislative halls also. He shot like a true marksman, always



with a rest in the field, in the cabinet and on the forum. He shot right and left, and always straight-forward. He never shot "off-hand." He was ever deliberate both on the field and in the cabinet. Of all Americans whose histories have been written, he was the nearest self-poised. Like all other men he had his faults. Like all other men, he had his weaknesses. Like all other men, he made mistakes; but when he erred, he erred on the right side. When he leaned over in any particular direction, he always bent the right way. He never was known to bend towards the enemy. God will always bless him for that. He never failed to bend toward his friends, when he allowed himself to be bent at all. For this weakness, if you consider it a weakness, the world, a thousand years hence, will rise up and call him blessed. (Loud applause.)

History has written General Grant in cold type, one of the marvelous men of all the ages; and history rarely, if ever, errs. (Cheers.) He was the "silent man" of modern times, and, indeed, of all times; and his silence was the true measure of his greatness. Grant was truly "the silent man of destiny." "Silence murmurs while the deeps are dumb." (Loud cheers.) A little, brawling, mountain rivulet makes more noise than the deep, broad, grand, majestic Mississippi. Grant was a massive Mississippi, and his traducers and maligners were brawling mountain rivulets. General Ulysses S. Grant will live forever in the hearts of his countrymen, while those who seek to depreciate him will be ignored and despised of all men. Grant made himself. Millions cannot unmake him. (Applause.) The few charlatans may croak and whine and groan and lie about Grant, but the massive millions of our people will rank him next to Lincoln, the greatest, biggest, broadest, brainiest, bravest man our country has ever produced. (Applause.)

Mr. President, I am from the South. I am a Virginian. I stand by my people, because they have always stood by me. Hitherto we of the South have not fully understood ourselves. Of late we are beginning to find out "where we are at." We have been doing wrong because of our prejudices. Somehow, we couldn't help it. We acknowledge our mistakes. We have recently found out "who hit us." We have been hitting ourselves. We ask forgiveness for our short-comings. Will you of the North and East be reasonable, consistent, merciful? We of the South have at last found out what we don't want. We

don't want free trade. We know we have had enough of that. President McKinley succeeded in bringing us to our senses. He told us, we, more than any other section of the Republic, needed protection. It took us a long time to get over to his way of thinking; but we got there at last, and we are going to stay there. We are now willing to concede that we cannot reach the forefront as a manufacturing section, without "protection," and this is why we voted for McKinley in West Virginia. The Army of the Potomac, or any other "army," if it were in existence to-day, could not snatch us away from this way of thinking. (Cheers.)

My fellow citizens, we are too poor down South to make much of a stir, but we are not dead. (Laughter.) Our prejudices are going—gone. The "scales" have fallen from our eyes. Give us a little more time and our visions—our out-looks—will be entirely cleared. We are making headway. We are at last on the right road. (Applause.) Bear with us a little while longer, and very soon we will be in the front of the procession. We are not fools. (Laughter.) You of the North will make a mistake if you class us as such. I speak for West Virginians, and I tell you in all sincerity, no better, braver, nobler people breathe the air of heaven than the sturdy mountaineers of our progressive "Mountain State." We are Virginians, but we are Americans also. We have learned at last that the whole is greater than any of its parts. You may depend upon West Virginians standing by the United States first, and by our own State next. We are loyal to "the flag," and at the call of the President, we will respond with colors flying. With us "*E pluribus unum*" means more than "*montani semper liberi*." (Loud applause.)

Mr. President, I stand here to-day, in this splendid presence, from my native State of West Virginia, and I believe that I stand for an overwhelming majority of my people. I believe in that greatest of all American principles—protection to American industries, American manufactures and American labor. (Applause.) For this we may be termed selfish; but we are not. We simply believe in the McKinley doctrine of looking out for No. 1. A man who will not look out for himself is unworthy the name of a man. A man who will not provide for his own family, does not deserve to be recognized as a man. (Applause.) Down in West Virginia, from which section I have the honor to

hail, we believe it to be our first duty to care for our own households. We believe in the Bible doctrine that he who refuses to provide for his own household has denied the faith, and is worse than an infidel. (Laughter.) We are not infidels down there. We are Christians, and they are the best people on the earth, and everybody knows it. We have started out to follow President McKinley, and we are going to keep on following him, because we believe him to be a true American, and we firmly and honestly believe in the doctrine which he teaches. We have stood by the McKinley Bill and now we are standing by "Bill" McKinley." (Laughter.) Hail and high water and brimstone and the Cobden Club and Cleveland and "Billy" Wilson all combined, can't switch us off from the firm position we have taken. Thank the Lord, we are in dead earnest at last. Our eyes "are sot" and we are like the old Presbyterian Elder, "When our eyes are sot, a meeten house can't be any sotter." (Loud laughter.)

Mr. Toastmaster, I believe I am speaking for the entire South, but I dare not assume to go beyond the limits of my own State. I tell you and the Union League Club of New York, that West Virginians are sick and tired of "solid-south" *isms*. We have recently cut the shore lines, and have as a State, launched out on the great sea of Republican progress. (Applause.) We are for protection for our own households and for American industries and American labor. We believe with President McKinley, that it is far better for us to open our mills to the free and unlimited employment of American labor, than to open our mints to the free and unlimited manufacture of fifty cent silver dollars. (Applause.) You might as well try to dam the Hudson river with corn-cobs as to try to switch West Virginia back to the "tom-foolery" of free trade and fifty cent dollars; and the entire "New South" will sooner or later line up in the same procession. (Cheers.) We have allowed ourselves to be ruled by prejudice ever since the close of the war; but old things are passing away in our south-land, and all things are becoming new. If you will go with me into West Virginia, our people can not tell you where the north ends or the south begins. (Prolonged cheering.) If we only had your stern common sense, your money and your enterprise down yonder in our country, it would not belong before half the people of New York would move over into West Virginia; and better than all, you would remain there



the balance of your lives. We have the richest State in natural resources on the face of the earth. If you do not believe my statements, go down there and see for yourselves. (Cheers.)

Mr. President, I beg of you to believe me when I say, we have resolved to stand by McKinley and "McKinleyism" in the future. We are going to stand by "protection." We are going to stand by the Union. We are going to keep on standing by the Republican party. We are going to keep on standing by a genuine American policy, which means that we propose to stand by *ourselves*. We will take no step backward. Have no fears, Mr. President, as to this. West Virginia, politically, has hung her gate "on the other post," and she has hung it there to stay. We are for the United States first and for other countries afterwards. We are for McKinley and so-called "McKinleyism," and we mean to keep on voting that way, sink or swim, live or die, survive or perish. (Great applause.)

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## ADDRESS

*of Gov. Atkinson on St. John's Day, at Clarksburg, W. Va.*

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*June 24, 1897.*

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MY FRIENDS AND FELLOW CITIZENS:—

The two great John's of the New Testament were two patron saints of Freemasonry. These John's were among the wonderful men of history. With the exception of the Apostle to the Gentiles, they were perhaps the greatest men of their times, and of all times. The Baptist, whose memory we celebrate to-day, was the first great prophet of the New Dispensation; and the Master himself said that he knew none greater—not even excepting Paul. The other John—the Evangelist—was the last of all the prophets. He telescoped with marvelous vision, the glories of the world to come. He saw through coming centuries as only one divinely inspired, and the pictures that he painted are an inspiration to all who believe in the existence of a God,

and believe there remains a reward for those who emulate the virtues of these great prophets, and believe that it is the duty of one and all to do their part in making the world better and broader and nobler and grander.

All over the civilized world to-day Freemasons are meeting and are talking about the greatness and the goodness of St. John, the Baptist, and also about the principles and the teachings of our Masonic institution. We do not magnify this great Order. It magnifies itself. Cynics often essay to attack it. We don't defend it. It defends itself. Little mountain rivulets murmur, but Masonry, like the great, broad, grand Mississippi rolls majestically on in its meandering way to the sea. Pessimists and cynics cannot decry her, nor can they impede her in her efforts to harmonize men of all nations and of all climes.

Master Masons have ever been the minute men of freedom and the reliable men of statesmanship.

Freemasonry is a school—not a school-master; a porch—not a zen; a place for study—not a teacher. Her mission is to preserve—not to propagate the divine truth committed to her keeping. But if one is desirous of learning, he may choose his master, be that master Paul or Appollos or Cephas or Jesus or Moses or Leo XIII or Luther or Zoroaster or Mohammed; and every Mason must teach the Truth as it is given unto him, and not another to see the truth.

The one great aim of Freemasonry has ever been to proclaim the existence of an Allwise, Supreme Deity.

The banks of the streams of time are strewn with the wrecks of censorships and inquisitions and racks and thumb-screws and fagots; with the corpses of monarchs and dead empires as pitiful memorials of those who have sought to shackle human thought and speech by opposing the mighty juggernaut of truth and progress. But while creeds and religions and empires have risen, flourished and decayed, Freemasonry still survives and will live on forever.

This fraternity, my brethren, originated, as did classic history, out of a mythology all its own; and upon its unseen foundations it has risen slowly, like a coral island, or like civil and religious liberty, revealing to none its great beginnings, and it stands forth to-day the oldest continuing human system known to the science of sociology.

But, brethren, the heart of man is older than his head. Hu-

manity everywhere longs for the sympathy which is taught by this, the oldest and greatest of all secret societies that the world has ever seen.

Care, struggle, anxiety are all about us. Human sorrow is an universal experience. All around are bleeding hearts, and Freemasonry seeks to heal them.

Brethren, we need more of the courage that dares and the courage that does; that recognizes right and pursues it; that owns a duty and discharges it; that sees a wrong and rights it.

We win by tenderness. We conquer by forgiveness.

Come what may, my brethren, let us promulgate the true symbolisms of our Institution, and especially charity which vaunteth not itself, and is not puffed up, and upbraideth not.

Let us not leave flowers on our brothers graves, but sprinkle now a few upon their darkened, saddened pathways that can be traced along the years by the bloody tracks of disappointments, mishaps and mistakes. We are commanded to gladden the sore heart here and now by the word of cheer, the hand of help. As men and Masons I believe we are ready and willing to do our part in the great conflict for the triumph of the right.

The brethren will pardon me for saying that I think I know a healthy man when I see him. If I am not mistaken, Freemasonry in West Virginia is as healthy a specimen of virile manhood as treads the earth and looks upon the stars. We are going right onward. Nothing can impede us. We are on the right road. We know it. We are doing our work faithfully and well, and we know that also. We have 107 Lodges, and they are increasing every year. Hail and high water cannot stop Freemasonry from spreading. With hand to back, and mouth to ear, we will go steadily onward from conquering to conquest. (Loud applause.)



## REMARKS

*of Governor G. W. Atkinson, introducing Col. Henry Watterson,  
at the Wheeling Opera House, in his great lec-  
ture on Abraham Lincoln.*

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LADIES AND GENTLEMEN:—

The discussion of the life and character of a great man by a great man, is always profitable. The United States has been and is prolific of distinguished men. She is the mother of the minute men of freedom, and the reliable men of statesmanship. The names of many of them are household words, and they will remain such for centuries—perhaps forever. But it makes no difference how tall the shaft upon which the names of these statesmen and patriots may be carved by an admiring, liberty-loving people, the names of two will ever stand pre-eminently above all the rest—Washington and Lincoln.

Distinct as they were individually and widely differing in almost all their characteristics, they will ever represent the highest types of American manhood. Widely differing in nearly every other respect, yet they were the same in that broad humanity, that sterling patriotism, that serene uprightness of character which underlie the true elements of genuine American manhood.

In Washington we have the man of education, the scion of an aristocratic and noted household, reared in an atmosphere of monarchical ideas and predilections; all of which, however, he was able to cast aside, and thus sacrifice opportunities for preferment, that he might engage, like the struggling Cubans, in an apparent hopeless effort for the freedom of his countrymen. He risked his all to see the Nation established. And like Lord Nelson at Trafalgar, he won; but he won more than a peerage, or a grave in Westminster Abbey—he won forever the title, “First in war, first in peace, and first in the hearts of his countrymen.”

Lincoln was more truly the product of the country which Washington gave to freedom, and was therefore more truly the

typical American. Springing from the ranks of the common people—from the lower walks of life; born in poverty, in obscurity, inured to the hardest of hardships, almost totally uneducated; yet like the Nation he was destined to preserve, he rose superior to his surroundings, and eventually asserted the greatness that was in him.

As long as the nation endures, as long as the fire of patriotism burns in the American breast, the names of these two heroes will be indissolubly linked—the one as the maker of the greatest Nation beneath the stars, the other as its preserver; the one, the father of his country; the other, her foremost son. Aye, more, my friends. I shall always believe that Abraham Lincoln was the biggest, broadest, brainiest man of our times, and of all times. His name will be forever remembered for what he said and how he said it, as well as for what he did and how he did it.

His great character will be presented to us to-night by one, also a native of Kentucky—one in all respects peculiarly fitted for the task, Col. Henry Watterson, scholar, editor, orator. It affords me pleasure, my fellow citizens, to introduce as the speaker of the evening, not Col. Henry Watterson of Kentucky, but citizen Henry Watterson, of the United States of America. (Applause.)

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## ADDRESS

*of Governor G. W. Atkinson, D. C. L., of West Virginia, in the McCullough Opera House, at Louisville, Ky., before the Graduating Class of the Kentucky Medical College.*

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*June 30, 1897.*

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(From "Courier-Journal.")

YOUNG GENTLEMEN OF THE CLASS OF 1897, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN:—

I am glad I have the opportunity to talk to you upon this, the occasion of your graduation from this Medical College,

which is beyond question the greatest in the South. I assure you, my young friends, that it is always a pleasure to me to be permitted to address young men. Some opinionated individual once said that the difference between a Doctor of Divinity and a Doctor of Medicine is this: "A D. D. practices faith and prayer, while an M. D. practices faith and pills." I am inclined to the belief that our alleged cynical friend was not far wrong. All good men should deal in faith. They should have faith in themselves and faith in the right. Without faith in ourselves and the ultimate triumph of right principles, the future would be dark and gloomy indeed. All of us should have an abiding faith in Almighty God; and the successful physician must have faith in himself and the remedies he prescribes in the treatment of his cases.

My advice to you, young gentlemen, to-day, as you leave this school, is to take with composure whatever may come to you. All ambitious men aim high, but seldom reach their highest expectations. Some men, however, go about their work blindly and with no definite purpose in life. It seems to me to be a crime for people to always mean well, and yet never reach their well meaning.

The man who accomplishes the most, is the one who sees things as they are, and then takes a vigorous hand to make the most of the circumstances which come within his reach. The man who achieves the greatest good, is the one who entertains the highest ideas, and then endeavors to put these ideas into practical effect.

Success, as I understand it, lies in being in perfect harmony with one's undertakings. Things may, for a time, appear out of joint; and one may not find his work in harmony with his expectations, but if he is true to his calling, it will finally result for the best. Let me tell you, young gentlemen, the world is proud of those who are in love with their work, no matter what it may be.

Some one has said, and I think aptly, that the old maxim of "a penny saved is better than a penny earned," is not altogether correct. A penny which has been properly earned, and judiciously expended, in my judgment, is a far better maxim than the one above mentioned, which is so generally accepted as correct political economy. Money saved frequently results in loss to its owner. The judicious expenditure of money is the



basis of individual and national prosperity. The successful man does both—he saves and invests. One always supplements the other. The men who win success in life are not those who wait until all methods are proven successes, but rather those who ask only an even chance, and join the procession while it is passing. If I were as young as you, my young friends, I would hasten to take out an endowment policy of confidence in myself, and I would resolve to take a hand in whatever might come before me. Conservatism may do for old men, but young men must have grit and gumption, and nerve enough to assert themselves, and hold the positions they have rightfully taken. I urge you, therefore, to allow no one, old or young, to rob you of that which justly belongs to you. Allow no one to crowd you out of line. Stand firmly for that which is justly and honestly your own. Stand for your rights, as Patrick Henry expressed it, "Sink or swim, live or die, survive or perish."

My friends, these diploma's mean much to you. They show that you have equipped yourselves for your life-work. They testify that you are not mountebanks or charlatans. The time was when men could, in a way practice the healing art without knowledge or learning or character. The time was when men could win a fair degree of success, even in the learned professions, with limited educations: but that time has passed. The day of raw-leather men has gone by for ever: and we are glad that it is so. Education is now demanded, not only in the learned professions, but in every branch of business and trade as well. I once heard Henry Ward Beecher say that even "Mortar is better when mixed with brains," and he was right.

My fellow citizens, the history of the world, from Adam down to McKinley, teaches the fact that true merit will always be rewarded. It is sometimes tardy in its coming, but it will come at last to all who are truly meritorious and deserving. The masses of the people are always fair and honest, and they will, sooner or later, award to every one of you your just deserts. Then my young friends, let me advise you not to undertake to try to deceive the people, because they will surely find you out. They will "get onto you," as the boys say on the streets. Mr. Lincoln aptly said, "You can deceive all the people part of the time; you can deceive part of the people all the time; but you can't deceive all the people all the time."

When you begin to wrestle seriously with the world, you will

find that great men do not grow upon parlorcarpets any more than trees grow in hot-beds. Great men are made by rubbing up against the moving, throbbing mass of man-kind, just as the trees are made to grow and flourish and take deeper and firmer roots, because of the winds and the storms that beat against them yonder on the mountain crests. Just so it is with the men of this world, my friends.

You will find also that in all of life's struggles courage will be essential to success in your callings, as well as in mine. Not John L. Sullivan courage. I don't mean that. That is brute courage, and you will find that there is not much in that, my friends. You should, however, have enough of that sort of courage to protect your manhood, your honor, your homes and your fire-sides, and no more. The braggart and the bully, like the raw-leather man are back numbers. The courage that you will need most is moral courage—the courage to be just, the courage to do right, the courage to stand for principle, the courage to be honest every hour in the day, and every day in the week.

An old sailor once said, "Mess-mates, I want to tell you that God Almighty has so arranged things in this world that it about pays to do right."

The little boy who saw the water breaking through the dykes yonder in the low-lands of Holland, and promptly stopped the leak with clay, to my mind, revealed a finer fiber and a braver record than Arnold Winklereid, who, when at the head of a Swiss army, shouted to the enemy, "Make way for liberty," and rushing upon the bayonets of the enemy, made way for liberty and died.

The little Scotch peasant girl—Margaret Graham—who by Claverhouse's order was tied to a stake on the beach, when the tide was out, because she would not renounce her belief in the Christian religion, and was overwhelmed by the tide, by that one act proved her courage to be greater than Chambronne's when he shouted to the British, "The guard will die, but it will never surrender."

The watchman at Pompeii, buried at his post by the molten lava from Vesuvius, tells the Roman story in more eloquent language than the ruins of the Collosseum. And brave Herdon, standing on the bow of his ship, doing all he could to save his crew, and choosing death to dishonor, is a grander picture

of true, heroic temper than Julius Cæsar leading his legions to victory, or the conquering Corsican at the Bridge of Lodi. This, my brothers, is the sort of courage you will need.

Two more thoughts, and I am done. The first of these thoughts is, that Divine providence has so arranged things in this life that a narrow-minded, pompous, pop-eyed, pigeon-livered bigot cannot amount to much in this world. What mankind wants above everything else is heart, soul, sympathy. Some men have no hearts—they only have gizzards. I know some men myself, whose souls are so small that a million of of them can revolve on the point of a cambric needle without touching elbows. If you hope to win in this world, my young friends, you must have sympathy—a fellow feeling for somebody besides yourselves.

But you say there is nothing but sentiment in sympathy. You are mistaken. It is the great power, unseen though it may be, that is yet to reform this world. It is the lever by which all classes may be raised to a higher plane of usefulness. The reason that Shakespeare's poems are read second only to the Bible itself, is because of the vein of sympathy which runs through almost every line of every poem. He seemingly stretches out his great arms and throws them around the people and draws them to his bosom, which is ever throbbing with sympathy and love. Your popularity and your success will depend largely upon the amount of sympathy you show towards your fellow men.

I know you will pardon this illustration. I have stood on the summit of the lofty hill in the rear of my home at Wheeling, and have heard peal after peal of the mighty thunder, which seemed to shake the mountains to their bases. This to me was grand—awfully grand. Standing there, I have seen flash after flash of lightning as they shot athwart both valley and sky. This, too, was grand. Standing there, I have heard the escaping of steam from the massive steamboats, as they plowed the bosom of the majestic Ohio, as it swept past my home on its meandering way to the sea. This, also, was grand. Standing there, I have heard the shrill whistle of the locomotive, as it dashed along valley and hill-side, and through the very mountains themselves, carrying passengers forty miles an hour from sea to sea. This, likewise was grand. All these things were grand—awfully grand; but they are nothing, absolutely nothing.



ing, in comparison with the wailings of the human heart, which arouse in one's bosom a desire to relieve another's sorrows and bind up another's wounds.

The lower animals have feeling, but they have no fellow feeling. I have myself seen the ox eating hay in his stall, when his yoke-mate lay dying by his side.

It is said that the wounded deer sheds tears. This may be true; but it is left for man alone, by sympathy, to divide another's sorrows and double another's joys.

You may place two pianos in a room—one being an exact multiple of the other—and leave one of them uncovered and open up the other. Let some one place his ear upon the uncovered instrument, and let another touch a key of the other instrument, and the man with his ear upon the casing of the uncovered piano will hear the sound of the self-same note. This is the philosophy of harmonics. It is strange—passing strange, but it is stranger still how it is and why it is, that the strings of one man's heart will vibrate to those of another, and how woe wakes woe and grief begets pain.

This, my friends, is sympathy in the fullness of its sweep, and this is the great unseen power which will yet regenerate the world. My brother, my friend, if you have not begun to cultivate this element in your nature, I beg of you to begin it now.

The other thought which I desire to leave with you is the statement that *work wins*. Daniel Webster once said, "In all the learned professions, there is always room on top." He meant to convey the impression that all the lower grade positions and places are crowded, and he was forever right. Great as he was, he never uttered a greater truism than that.

I once saw a placard on the wall of a law-office which read like this, as well as I can recall it, "Lost, somewhere between the hours of 9 a. m. and 6 p. m. to-day, one golden hour of time. No reward is offered for its recovery, because it is gone forever." I am sure, my young friends, you will catch the force of the lesson of that advertisement.

With all the emphasis that I can command, I want to impress upon your minds to-night the force and truthfulness of the statement that work, and nothing but persistent work, will procure success for you in the careers upon which you are now entering.

Men may be born rich, but they can not be born great. No

physician, no lawyer, no clergyman, no statesman, no farmer, no mechanic, ever reached success by loafing or lounging precious time away. That is not the way the gladiator prepared himself for the amphitheatre at Rome, when nearly all the inhabitants of that great city were present to witness his daring feats of courage, nerve and muscle. That is not the way that John Milton wrote the "Paradise Lost," the grandest epic poem of the centuries. That is not the way that Henry Thomas Buckle laid the foundation of and gathered the material for the most remarkable history ever written by mortal hands. That is not the way that Demosthenes and Pericles prepared themselves for the Athenian rostrum, and who, when they spoke, they swayed the people at their wills. That is not the way that Hannibal and Scipio and Alexander the Great and Julius Caesar and Frederick the Second and Napoleon the First prepared themselves for the command of great armies, the very mention of whose names, in battle, created excitement, fear and consternation in the ranks of their enemies. That is not the way that Copernicus and Kepler and Rosse and Newton surveyed the heavens, and with their massive telescopes brought the remotest stars almost within the shadows of their homes. That is not the way that Phidias and Praxitiles and Michael Angelo and our own great Hiram Powers, with chisel and brush, worked their ways through life, and left behind them monuments more enduring than the marble they sculptured and the pictures they painted, and names as imperishable as brass.

No, my friends, all of these distinguished men, whose names I have mentioned, and all other great men of all ages and nationalities, worked their ways to fame, to fortune and success. They dug out the nuggets of wisdom which adorned their lives and characters from the great mountains of knowledge, which a wise and beneficent Creator has placed within the reach of all.

Young gentlemen, hear me, if you expect to attain success in life, let me tell you, it can only be done by working early and late. "There is no royal road to learning." That proverb is as true as the Gospel of Grace.

At the risk of the charge of being prolix, I am going to offer one thought more, and it is this: The wise builder builds for the future. There is nothing enduring in this world, but God and His laws. The stars that shone upon your cradles will shine upon your graves. The hills that cast their shadows up-

on your play-grounds, will also cast them upon your biers, as loved ones take you to your tombs. Darkness is closing over the land of Solon and Lycurgus. The hills that echoed the eloquence of Pericles are almost unknown to-day. The groves in which Socrates and Plato prepared their philosophy have all been razed to the earth. The grand cities, temples and obelisks of antiquity, which were intended to immortalize their builders, have nearly crumbled into dust; but the names and the deeds of Paul and Baxter and Bunyan, and men of that class, will live on and on for ever.

I repeat, my young friends, the wise men of to-day will build for eternity. Decay is written upon everything about us. Mausoleums, like everything earthy, must give way under the tooth of time. Even the globe itself must, sooner or later, melt with fervent heat. The sun unheeded will drag along the jarring heavens and refuse to shine. The lights of the stars will pale away. The moon will roll up the rending sky, and hang her latent livery on the wings of the dying night; but if we as individual men and women, have builded well, our work will remain indestructable, immutable, immortal, panoplied in perpetual glory, unaged by centuries, unmarred by change, and as eternal as God.

We look into the future and hail the coming of the morn, radiant and effulgent, when the waves of the sea will become the crystal cords of a grand organ, on which the fingers of everlasting joy will peal the grand march of a world redeemed to God.



## WEST VIRGINIA STATE COLORED NORMAL SCHOOL.

*Speech of Governor G. W. Atkinson, D.C.L., at the laying of the  
Corner-Stone of the New Hall of the West Virginia  
State Colored Institute, at Farm,  
West Virginia.*

*July 4, 1897.*

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN:

The custom of laying corner-stones with solemn and imposing ceremonies is very ancient. Its origin antedates written history. If it had not its origin among the Hebrew people—which is extremely doubtful—they early adopted the custom, of which there is abundant evidence.

The relation of the corner-stone to the building was not only early recognized, but its importance so well understood that the very term "corner-stone" was used as a symbol and employed by poets, prophets and teachers, and by writers as a metaphor, a simile, or to emphasize an argument or enforce a moral. Of this the sacred writings afford many examples:

"The Lord has chastened me sore; but he hath not given me over unto death."

\* \* \* \* \*

"The stone rejected by the builders is become the head corner."

"Behold I lay in Zion for a foundation stone, a tried stone, a precious corner-stone, a sure foundation."

"Where wast thou when I laid the foundations of the earth?  
"Declare if thou knowest understandingly. Who hath laid the  
"measures thereof, if thou knowest? or who hath stretched the  
"line upon it? Whereupon are the foundations thereof fast-  
"tened? or who laid the corner stone thereof: when the morning  
"stars sang together and all the sons of God shouted for joy?"

Enough is here quoted to illustrate that the corner-stone was recognized as an important stone in public and sacred buildings among the Israelites at a very early date. But it was not peculiar to them. History teaches us every civilized nation

recognized the value of the corner-stone in public and sacred buildings.

It is reported, Mr. Petrie, in 1886 found deposited in a corner-stone of a temple at Naukratis emblems placed there by Ptolemy Philadelphus, 275 B. C.; also in the corner-stone of a temple built by Amasis II, about 550 B. C. These discoveries would lead us back about 2500 years.

Among the Romans the corner-stone of public buildings was laid with solemn and religious ceremonies. In Book IV, Section 53, Tacitus tells us "the care in rebuilding the Capitol was committed to Lucius Vestinus on the eleventh day before the calends of July \* \* \*. The grounds assigned for the foundation were encompassed with ribbons and chaplets of flowers \* \* \* the vestal virgins followed in procession, followed by boys and girls. \* \* \* They sprinkled the place with water, drawn from three clear fountains and three rivers; Helvidius, Priscus, the prætor \* \* \* sacrificed; they invoked Jupiter, Juno and Minerva, praying of them and all the tutelary deities of Rome that they would favor the undertaking, and with their divine assistance carry to perfection a work begun and consecrated by the piety of man.

"After this solemn prayer, Helvidius laid his hands upon the fillets that adorned the corner-stone, and also the cords by which it was to be drawn to its place. At that moment the magistrates, priests, senators, Roman knights and a number of citizens, all acting with one effort, and amid general demonstrations of joy, laid hold of the ropes and dragged the ponderous load to its destined spot. They then threw in ingots of gold and silver and other metals, which had never been melted in a furnace, but still retained untouched by human art their first formations in the bowels of the earth."

So history relates through all the periods to the present time among civilized peoples the ceremony of laying corner-stones has been regarded as a solemn and important event. It was considered and is today the most significant stone of the building—not because it unites the two outer walls of the edifice, but in it are deposited records of value, coins and other evidences suggesting something of the history of the period, of the people, of the objects of the building to be erected and of its uses.

But, my friends, all these ceremonies would be vain and useless if they carried with them no other or deeper significance

than the mere perfunctory rites you have here witnessed. They go very much further. Indeed, these symbols are significant of larger and grander purposes than appear upon the surface.

What are the objects of sacred and public buildings? They are many and arise with the needs of a people. They are the temples in which we worship; they are the halls devoted to public uses; the capitols wherein grave senators and representatives meet to enact laws for a people, laws that are to prosper them or oppress them; they are the halls of justice, from behind whose bulwarks, with a pure judiciary standing between the two extremes of government—the executive and legislative—protect public and private interests; they are the buildings erected for educational purposes; for social and intellectual culture; asylums, homes for the orphan and the destitute.

Behind all these lie the deeper aim and the grander purpose. This material structure symbolizes the inner spiritual house to be erected in which for stone and brick, cement and precious stones, are to be substituted the higher virtues of the heart, the purer emotions of the soul, the warm affections gushing from hidden fountains of the spirit—a new building, wherein shall be enshrined the diviner needs of man. Having laid such a cornerstone in his heart, the man is taught the importance of erecting his spiritual temple on the cubical stone of truth, tested by the square, the level and the plumb, all teaching “the necessity of integrity and fidelity of conduct, of truthfulness and uprightness of character, and of purity of life.”

No man can live for himself alone. Every one should recognize the obligation, not valued in grains of gold, which he owes to his country, his neighbors, his family and himself. The humblest being exerts an influence for good or evil however limited be his sphere. The most gifted and influential have only a wider field by reason of their position in social life.

These influences extend, like rays of light to all within the limit of the circle. By gradations the forces of man's influence extend upward and downward—thus connecting by a chain, whose links are human souls, the humblest being with the most exalted. It is the law of action and re-action linked inseparably together, producing a stress, a displacement of one set of ideas for another whether consonant with right or justice. When these mental forces are united and co-operate for good what grand results may not be accomplished for humanity?



Standing on this threshold of the twentieth century and looking back, we find how ignorance, bigotry and superstition are disappearing into the night as the dawn of intelligence and a clearer knowledge of God's creation is unfolded. This little world of ours no longer appears as the whole of the creation, but simply as a grain of sand, an atom in the limitless expanse wherein are systems of suns and planets never dreamed of in ancient days. Even the suspicion that there were other suns and systems and worlds like our own was regarded, in the Dark Ages, as a heresy meriting death! As in the physical creation, so out of the narrow confines of ignorance into the greater intellectual, moral and religious world of thought, the prejudices that cramped and distorted mental vision are disappearing, and a kindlier, sweeter faith is bringing us into closer unity—belief in the Fatherhood of God and the Brotherhood of Man.

So we see out of the centuries has been evolved the grander man, the man who has opinions of his own and respects the opinions of others. How many men have labored, suffered, died, to pave the way for this great result cannot be enumerated! They stand along the pathway of history like milestones pointing the way out of the wilderness of ignorance and bigotry into the open plain of intellectual manhood. It may with truth be said the protesting of individuals from the fourteenth century down to this—protesting against the authority of the church to repress individual opinion and private judgment, swelled and grew in force and numbers until now, throughout all civilized countries, every church, and every worshipper therein, are so many additional monuments against the tyranny and oppression that, under the guise of religion, had settled like a pall over the whole of Europe during the dark ages

These earnest and faithful laborers, many of them martyrs, have all been co-workers in establishing liberty and fraternity among men, teaching freedom of opinion and demanding the same right for others. As all of us to a certain extent, have labored to secure this freedom, so all of us are beneficiaries in the glorious heritage which it has brought to the world.

If it were asked, my friends, and brethren, where the equality of man and his true relations to his fellow man have been continuously taught for centuries, I would answer in the various secret benevolent societies which have flourished all along the

centuries. These societies, which have never sought to supplant the Church, have accomplished a great work in breaking down the walls of sectional strife, in teaching toleration, and in demanding respect for the opinions of others. These Orders have brought the great mass of mankind in closer union, and have aided in lifting all classes to higher heights of intelligence and usefulness.

My fellow citizens, the hope of the future is the public school of today. It is the corner-stone of patriotism and the bulwark of liberty. The degree of the education of our children will gauge the degree of the civilization of the State. Educated masses make peaceful masses. Education has ever been the gauge of progress in all lands. It is an universal uplifter of humanity everywhere. There can be no sure growth without it. Every dollar spent by the State in educating its citizens is two dollars saved in actual outlay to keep the peace and maintain the law. More education, fewer police officers; more school-houses, fewer alms-houses; more school teachers, fewer convicts. Higher conceptions of religion and duty follow the higher education of all classes. Education and religion move hand and hand, and this is why the State should foster both. As American citizens we should hold it as our first duty to stand by our public schools, and Normal institutions like this, which is intended for the higher education of the colored people of West Virginia. They are schools of loyalty and patriotism, and the man who seeks to weaken them is not a true American. The world is moving forward, and much of our progress is due to our efficient system of the public education of the masses. I rejoice with you today that our public schools all over West Virginia are on a rising tide; and this is especially true of the colored schools of our State. I regard this institution a school of great promise. It has been managed by its Board of Regents with skill and judgment. Its growth has been phenomenal. Its outlook is most gratifying. It will not be many years until it will be one of the leading colored schools of the South. We owe it to ourselves to stand by it. My immediate predecessor in office was its substantial friend; and I promise you to likewise do all in my power to advance its interests and widen its sphere of usefulness.

My friends, I am sure you will pardon me for a brief allusion to this great benevolent Order, which today has laid this cor-

ner-stone in accordance with its beautiful ritual. As crystal and rock and marl and marble, through countless processes of transformation have found their culmination in the higher order of individual existences, so the result of your labors will develop in the personnel of your members, the subtlest and most beautiful combination of brotherhood that can be devised, if the purposes are kept active and vitalized by clear heads and earnest workers.

There is yet another view not to be overlooked or underestimated. The good your association assumes to do is practical and tangible. It is like a grand thought that goes forth and multiplies itself in the intellectual gardens of the world, bearing its unseen fruit in thousands of minds, passing into the fullness of seed time and harvest time. The lessons learned within the association will easily be traced beyond its walls to your several places of business, to your homes and in your daily lives among your fellow-men. Not all may be gifted to foresee the result of the substantial, as well as the beautiful work you may be destined to perform, but the time will come, sooner or later, when all will recognize in the result what a harvest of grand realities will be garnered up for the bettering of all the people of our State.

Each one may think his labor amounts to little. All cannot be rulers, but all can be workers; and, be it remembered, if the private station is the post of honor, it is also the post of responsibility. Each man is the centre of every society that surrounds him of which he is a part. Around each one of you as its centre this association has its vitalization. Each is able to minister to the hungry, the thirsty, the needy. These are the charities of an every-day life; but there are higher charities producing nobler qualities than the mere giving of dole to the needful. It is the dispensing of that intellectual food of kind encouraging words, the sublimest of all charities, that imparts to others luxuries of moral sustenance. These are the true meeds of love that each may scatter in the other's way, and which are given without impoverishing the giver, and ever attest the generous qualities of the donor. They are also gifts that outlast time and go with the recipient into eternity; and if immortality is not a dream, then, indeed, upon the shores of futurity will be washed the thoughts and feelings that underlie the deeds performed in this life and will await our coming there. They will



be to you, in that land the mental children that are to give to you greeting, comely and fair, and with whom you are to live under brighter skies in the coming time.

It is for this reason I would suggest, as our lives are immortal, we make them sublime by feeding upon imperishable things. This is the true secret of religion to which the truest philosophy can best supply the key. How wonderful it is to realize that we may so live as to be brought into sympathy with all the beauties of nature, and these sympathies to be inscribed indelibly upon the tablets of memory and will not fade. All else should perish because out of harmony with the perfection of God; for, if otherwise, the walls of the splendid mansion which we hope to inhabit will be stained with innumerable records of earthly failures.

As is laid to-day the foundation corner-stone of this edifice to be erected, may I suggest we also lay for ourselves a spiritual corner-stone in a firm belief in God, our immortality and our accountability. In its construction let the adornment of the spiritual temple show forth the life of the just man and the true Knight. Such you represent as symbols of the corner stone, and such you will represent in the spiritual building to be erected wherein you are to exemplify the character of that being who is to work out a unity of all men, broader than congregational lines, for the benefit of all the races beneath God's sunshine.

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## WHICH SIDE?

*An Address by Governor Geo. W. Atkinson, PH. D., LL. D., at Parkersburg, West Va.*

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(From "M. E. Times.")

MY FRIENDS:—One who doubts everything except that which he sees, or that which he experiences personally, is an unfortunate individual, and can be of but little benefit to his fellows. There are, however, I am sorry to say, many such men in the world. They delight in discounting everything, and really take

no testimony upon anything. With them "seeing is believing," and that which they cannot see, or feel, is not real, and therefore cannot exist.

Conflict results from reaction. Skepticism is a reaction against dogmatism. The human mind despises restraint, and when pressed it naturally swings, pendulum like, to an opposite extreme. This accounts, in part, for the ceaseless conflict between conservatism and radicalism, dogmatism and skepticism. Unbelief was born in the stagnant miasms of a corrupt theology. Dogmatism forced it into being, and when coupled with ignorance, immorality and a false philosophy, it has become formidable and dangerous to Christian civilization.

Faith, and not doubt, is the dynamic power of the world. It is the greatest civilizer of the ages. Religious belief has ever been a stimulus to great activity and intellectual and moral development. The Christian is the greatest of all the eras of the ages. It was the dawning of a period in the world's history that will continue to develop until all mankind shall be forever free.

The Crusaders gave a fresh impulse to progress. The Mohammedans ceased their conquests when they came in contact with Christianity; and they themselves were uplifted and inspired to higher and nobler motives by contact with Christian faith and Christian thought.

No nation has permanently prospered that refused to cultivate faith in a Being greater than man. No nation will be perpetuated that ignores the moral teachings upon which the fabric of Christianity rests. Six thousand years of the world's history prove the correctness of this assertion. Faith, therefore, is essential to national development and national greatness. On the contrary, skepticism is both destructive and iconoclastic. Tear down high ideals, and the people will become depraved. A religious trust—the highest of all ideals—ushers in a life of purity and love. In God's great loom there has been weaving for centuries a fabric that will ultimately be spread over the entire earth. Its warp is faith; its woof is love. The weaver is divine. The product is also divine. Skepticism is a hindrance to the flying of the shuttle. It disturbs and prolongs the perfecting of God's great plan. It has been the curse of nations. It to-day is man's worst enemy. What monuments for good mark its long career? Not one. On the other hand,

faith is constructive and progressive. The great achievements in architecture, the great poems of the centuries, art, history, oratory, democracy, and the development of the individual man, are its enduring monuments.

Fortunately out of the fifteen hundred millions of human beings that inhabit the earth, there are comparatively few that deny the existence of a God. No nation has thus far been discovered so ignorant that the overwhelming majority of its subjects do not believe in the existence of a Being greater than themselves, and therefore reveal a longing for some object to worship that they consider divine. Still, there are a great many persons among the civilized peoples on the globe who deny that we have any written revelation from God. They claim that Nature, or Conscience and Reason, are sufficient to reveal the great Creator's will, and teach them to do the right and avoid the wrong. The position of the infidel is that there will be no general judgment, no reward for the good, no punishment for the wicked,—indeed, no certainty of life beyond the grave. The creed of the Christian, on the other hand, is summed up in the passage of Scripture, "God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth on Him shall not perish, but have everlasting life." Moreover, it teaches that the proudest earthly triumphs are, at best, but transcient and fleeting, and that "the paths of glory lead but to the grave"; whereas "godliness is profitable unto all things, having promise of the life that now is, and of that which is to come;" and that

"We live in deeds, not years; in thoughts, not breaths;  
In feelings, not in figures on a dial.  
We should count time by heart-throbs. He most lives  
Who thinks most, feels the noblest, acts the best."

Now, which is right? Which side shall we take? Let us look into this momentous question for a few moments; for

"We are living, we are dwelling  
In a grand and awful time;  
In an age on ages telling,  
To be living is sublime."

I maintain that it is the duty of every intelligent person to take care of himself. "Self preservation is the first law of nature," says the proverb. As an adherent of the Christian religion, I hold that the Creator has placed me in this world that



I may, if I so elect, learn to live for ever; but I will waive for a few moments the argument of Christianity, as that we may look at this important subject in the light of reason only.

It is proper and wise, all will admit, before entering upon any undertaking, for one to inquire whether it is right or wrong, whether it is safe or perilous? It will not be denied that there is always an entirely safe way; and there may be another way which, though it may not insure safety, yet it cannot subject one to danger. Furthermore, it will not be denied that there are certain things safe for us to believe, even if they should be false. No penalty therefore can attach for such belief, even if it is based upon a false theory. To illustrate: I believe in the existence of a God; I believe that the Bible is the Word of God; I believe in rewards and punishments; I believe in the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Now, I hold that no danger can arise from such belief, even if it were true, as the infidel claims, that all these things are unreal and false. By believing as I do in an Allwise Creator, am I more likely to be honorable and upright in every day life than if I did not so believe? I answer yes, with emphasis. It is, to my mind, entirely reasonable that one who fixes his trust upon a Being that cares for him and takes cognisance of his every act, is more likely to be conscientious and exemplary in a greater degree than he who denies the existence of a God and lives in accordance with such profession. The one fears God and endeavors to keep his commandments, while the other fears man only and keeps no commandments.

By believing in a future state. or in the doctrine of rewarding the good and punishing the wicked, even if there were no truth in it and that it is purely mythical and unreal, I cannot see how any injury, either to myself or any other person, can result from it, unless it can be shown that the tendency of such belief is to debase rather than to elevate, which no infidel, however blatant, has ever assumed to be true. No skeptic has yet maintained that the tendency of Christianity is not elevating and ennobling. No one has ever been base enough to assert that the Christian religion does not seek to lift all its subjects to a higher plane of usefulness and intelligence. To deny this would be the denial of the truth of history. If, then, a belief in the Gospel of the Christ make one wiser and better instead of lowering and degrading him, even if the whole fabric were false, is it

not a fact that the Christian would have the decided advantage over the skeptic even in all that pertains to this world? And should it turn out to be real, as I have every reason to believe it to be, what will be the condition of the skeptic in the world that is to come?

Admitting, for the sake of argument, that the Bible is not divine, unless the unbeliever can show that its teachings are demoralizing, I can see no place for him to hang a theory that it is other than the height of wisdom to accept it as an inspired revelation. If it does not imperil one to believe in the immortality of the soul; if it does not jeopardize one to believe on One who is supposed to be Mighty to Save the unforgiven and the lost; if it does not endanger one to believe in the general judgment; if there is no danger in believing that man is in a state of apostasy from God,—if there is no risk in accepting all these things as true, and by believing them we are elevated and ennobled and are made more useful and influential, it seems to me that if the skeptic is an honest man, it becomes his duty, even from a worldly standpoint, to accept Christianity and thus better his condition and the condition of those whom he directly or indirectly influences in his life work.

If it is safe to be honest and truthful and upright and moral, it is also safe for one to use his utmost endeavors to comply with all of the requirements of the Bible, because it exacts nothing from any one that is not strictly in the line of good morals and upright living. God says "Give me thy heart." But you deny the existence of a God. The Bible says "Worship God." But you do not believe the Bible. Now, my dear friend, as I have already shown that a belief either in God or the Bible does not degrade, although you deny that there is anything divine in either of them, still there is a possibility even to the skeptic that they are both divine, and that all the positions of the Christian may prove to be true, then would it not be wise for the unbelievers to be on the safe side by accepting the truths of the Gospel also?

The atheist cannot prove that there is no God. The polytheist cannot prove that there are numerous Gods, nor can the pantheist prove that everything is God. A man may assert that death ends all, but he cannot prove it. He may declare that there will be no future judgment, but he cannot prove it. He may aver that the Bible is not an inspired book, but he can-

not verify it. However much the skeptic would delight to have all these things turn out in accordance with his wishes, still, his position is based upon the merest conjecture, and the results may be the very opposite of what he desires or expects.

A knowledge of divinity is obtained through the prophecy of revelation, the analogy of Nature, or the testimony of history. It seems to me that "in no uncertain manner does the analogy of Nature declare its proof in support of a divine providence. The supremacy of established law in the material universe creates the strong presumption that the course of man is governed in a like manner. Science declares the law that all matter circulates around and is dependent upon a Center. The material and moral universes are both the creation of the same Author, and is it not reasonable to conclude that the same common Creator governs both according to his own divine will? But one conclusion is possible from the testimony of history. Political causes were constituted by God when he formed the frame-work of human society, but individual agencies must be considered as depending upon a divine ruler. Nature and history have to do with the past. Revelation alone deals with futurity. Only to the prophetic eye is revealed the glory of that which is to come. Listen to the prophecy of the beyond as it wells from the lips of St. John, the Evangelist: 'And I saw on the right hand of him that sat on the throne, a book written within, and I saw a strong angel proclaiming, Who is worthy to open the book? And I wept, because no one was found worthy to open and read the book. And one saith: Weep not; behold the lion of the tribe of Judah hath prevailed to open the book; and they sung a new song; saying thou art worthy to take the book and to open the seals thereof; for thou wast slain, and hast redeemed us to God by thy blood, and hast made us unto our God kings and priests; and we shall reign on the earth.' The consummation of all history is the redemption of all mankind."

"There is plentiful redemption  
In the blood that has been shed;  
There is joy for all the members  
In the sorrows of the head.

"If our love were but more simple  
We should take him at his word;  
And our lives would be all sunshine  
In the sweetness of the Lord."



Inasmuch as no man can divine the future, or from any knowledge he may gather from the book of Nature, prove the truth or falsity of the Christian religion, however skeptical he may be, the sensible man, it seems to me, cannot afford to run any risk that might endanger his eternal happiness or his eternal interests. The skeptical unbeliever, therefore, should cry out as did the Psalmist: "Have mercy upon me O God, according to thy loving kindness; according unto the multitude of thy tender mercies blot out my transgressions. Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin." This, my dear friend and brother, is *the safe side*. Which side will you choose?

The universal decree of history is that Christianity alone is equal to the task of preparing men for great leadership, and to the co-operation of Christian forces can great achievements be won. True faith will ultimately draw all nations together and all mankind will be an universal brotherhood. In the full gleam of God's sunshine the din of war will cease, the battle-flags will be furled, and the parliament of man will be the federation of the world.

My friends, I have endeavored to discuss this great question from a higher and broader standpoint than that of the demands of modern materialistic science, as presented by the defenders of the supernatural. I have no time or disposition to debate the modern dogma that matter and force are eternal, and never were created, and that these are so correlated that no power above them can, by any possibility, interfere with their operation, and that there is an exact quantitative relation between all preceding and following forces. The ablest modern materialists, among whom I mention Herbert Spencer, admit that this cannot be demonstrated by induction from experiments. I can accept the doctrine of the correlation of forces, of conservation of energies when a supreme power above all nature's forces and natural laws is admitted; but I repudiate the doctrine of modern Materialism as an undemonstrable scientific fact, because no mortal can answer the question, What gave the first impulse to matter and started it into motion?

A Brooklyn physician, who was a member of the Rev. Henry Ward Beecher's church, was one day asked by a dying patient if it were true that some men were, from the beginning, elected

to be saved and others to be lost? The physician was greatly nonplussed, and could not answer the interrogatory in a satisfactory manner. At the next prayermeeting service—it being the custom on such occasions for members to interrogate the pastor—the young physician reported the circumstance to which I have referred to Mr. Beecher. His reply was instantaneous: “I would have told him that he must get nearer home to the real issue than that. I would have said, my brother, the ‘elect’ are the whosoever will, and the ‘non-elect’ are the whosoever won’t. If your trust in the Christ is full and complete, you will be saved, and if it is not, you will be lost.” I was personally present, and was greatly impressed with the pithy, powerful, practical theology the great divine taught in the few sentences I have quoted. His views met my own perfectly upon that great controversial subject, and I have always adhered to that position as the correct one, and I adhere to it now.

So, in the few remarks I have made upon the subject of skepticism, I have sought to meet the man of fairness and thoughtfulness upon plainer and more practical ground than taking him out into the broad, foggy field of metaphysics and psychology. I have endeavored to show him as logically as I can that even if the entire teachings of Christianity are a myth, it will pay him to accept them, because, if they should prove to be real, as we believe them to be, he would then be on the safe side; and if they should turn out to be false, he would have lost nothing by placing his trust implicitly in the Christ, whom I believe was, and is, the Savior of the world.

## INJUNCTIONS.

*Governor Atkinson's Views on Injunctions and Labor Strikes.*

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STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA,  
EXECUTIVE CHAMBER,  
Charleston, Aug. 3, 1897

MESSRS. GOMPERS, SOVEREIGN AND RACHFORD, COMMITTEE, &C.  
GENTLEMEN:—

Referring to your visit to me several days ago, in which there was a friendly discussion between us of certain phases of the labor troubles in this State, and especially of the strike of the coal miners, and to your several telegrams recently received, and referring also especially to your desire that I should take steps to secure to you and the workingmen of the State, the right and privilege of holding public meetings for the discussion of matters concerning the welfare of the said miners, I beg to say to you that I have given the matter most earnest consideration. In this controversy, there are to be considered both the rights of property and the rights of citizens. In our talk, you spoke of a certain injunction that had been issued by the Circuit Court of Marion County against you and others, according to the terms of which, as you understood them, you were prohibited from holding public meetings for the purpose of discussing the benefits of the organization of the coal miners of the Fairmont region. I understand that this injunction has not been served upon you, and that you have not been called upon to make any answer thereto.

The Circuit Court of Marion County belongs to the judicial department of the State Government, which is a separate and independent department from the Executive: and it would be obviously improper for me to express my opinion as to whether said injunction was properly or improperly issued or whether it is too sweeping in its character, or too comprehensive in its scope: and especially as the matter has not yet been determined by the Supreme Court of this State, to which you can take an appeal, and in which you can, I have no doubt, have a fair and proper hearing. I have, however, requested the Attorney-



General to appear in this matter and assist in having an early adjudication by the Supreme Court of the State, of this injunction proceeding. I have done this because the injunction presents somewhat novel questions, and I believe is the first of the kind to be issued in this State, and because it affects the rights of a large number of the citizens of West Virginia.

The Bill of Rights of the Constitution of this State guarantees to the people thereof "The right to assemble in a peaceable manner, to consult for the common good, to instruct their representatives, or to apply for redress of grievances", and it also provides that "No law abridging freedom of speech or of the press shall be passed." These are rights which have come down to us from the days of Magna Charta, which rights, as long as I am Governor, shall be preserved to the people of the State, if in my power so to do.

It is the right and duty of the Legislature to enact laws; of the Courts to construe them; and of the Executive to enforce them. No one of these departments should interfere with or usurp the functions or prerogatives of the others. I will say, however, that I now hold and always have held that the right of free speech and of public assembly should in no wise be abridged, and that the widest possible liberty should be allowed all of our people. I have always maintained that both labor and capital had the inherent right to organize for the better protection of both of their interests, provided such organizations are made and maintained within the restrictions of the Statutes of our State. It is improper and unlawful to use threats, force or intimidation of any sort to induce men to connect themselves with or become a part of any organized body of capitalists or laborers. It is also improper and unlawful for any body of men, organized or unorganized, to trespass upon the property or premises of a citizen; but it is my opinion that labor organizers or capital organizers, or any other organizers for that matter, may present their causes in a proper manner, in public places, to the people, and induce them, by moral suasion, to connect themselves with any organization which is in itself not unlawful in its aims and purposes. In other words, I claim the right for myself as a citizen of West Virginia, to discuss politics, religion, science, labor organizations, or any other subject I may choose to discuss, in public halls, or on public highways, provided always that I confine myself to the requirements of

the law which inhibits me from trespassing upon the property and vested rights of other citizens. I mean to say that the Bill of Rights of our Constitution allows me these privileges, and that no Court can impair these rights, if I confine myself to moral suasion, and do not incite the people to riotous conduct or other unlawful acts.

So long as the working men of this State conduct their cause in a lawful and peaceful manner, it will be my duty, as it will be my pleasure, to protect them; but if they should, in an ill-advised hour, violate the law by interfering with the rights or property of others, it will be my sworn duty to repress energetically and speedily all lawlessness, and to see that the public peace is maintained at all hazards, and that the property of our people is protected; for we must all, whether rich or poor, employer or employe, high or low, respect and obey the law.

Very Respectfully yours,

G. W. ATKINSON,  
Governor.

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## REPRIEVE REFUSED.

### GOVERNOR ATKINSON REFUSES A REPRIEVE

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*To Albert Voiers, the Condemned Fayette County Murderer.*

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*He Is Sentenced to Die on the Scaffold On Tuesday Next,*

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*But He Has Escaped from Jail and Is Now at Large With No Clue to his Whereabouts—The Governor Heard the Final Petition for Clemency Last Night and at Once Gave Out His Refusal and the Reasons for His Determination. Governor Atkinson Reviews the Case Throughout and the Arguments For and Against Mercy to the Condemned Man, Presented to Him—Decides That the Trial Was Regular and That All Fair Opportunities Were Given the Accused.*

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(From Wheeling Register, Aug. 22, 1897.)

Charleston, W. Va., August 21.—Governor Atkinson this evening gave a final hearing to the petitions for the commuta-

tion of the sentence of Albert Voiers to life imprisonment and immediately after the hearing, the Governor gave his decision, refusing to interfere with the sentence of the court.

The execution of Albert Voiers and Jerry Brown is set for Tuesday next at Fayette. Voiers escaped from jail Wednesday night and has not been heard from since.

Governor Atkinson, in his refusal, says:

In the matter of the application for commutation of the sentence in the case of the State vs. Albert Voiers, charged with the murder of Charles Gibson, in Fayette county, on the 28th day of February, 1896, I desire to say that there is no question as to the fact that a deplorable murder was committed, and that a trial was had, and a verdict of "murder in the first degree" was rendered against said Voiers. The testimony in this case seems conclusive to my mind that Voiers was unquestionably a party to the murder of Gibson, and that he was, probably, the ring leader in the crime. The case has been ably argued before me. Counsel set out the claim that Voiers did not have a fair trial, and that he was not defended as he should have been under our Constitutional provision. It is also claimed by counsel for Voiers that he was a voluntary witness against Wiley Lewis, who was charged with the murder of John Cochran, subsequently to the murder of Gibson, and because of this fact, he is entitled to the mercy claimed, on the ground of "public policy." I cannot see that the rule as to "public policy" applies in this case, for the reason that it is a separate and distinct case for the murder in which Voiers himself was charged with being a party. Clark Lewis and Albert Voiers were tried jointly in the criminal court of Fayette county upon the charge of murder. It is true that Voiers was not represented by able counsel, but the other two parties, Lewis and Slaughter, were represented by fairly good lawyers; and they, in appearing for Clark Lewis and Wilbur Slaughter, also appeared indirectly for Voiers. I am of opinion that all three of the parties had a fair trial and were represented by counsel, as the law provides. The evidence, in my judgment, is clear and convincing against Voiers. Clark Lewis, from the first, insisted that Voiers was the principal in the crime. He stuck to this statement on the gallows. Slaughter also testified in the same manner. Voiers is not entitled to any consideration or immunity because he testified against Wiley Lewis. It was clearly his duty to do this, with-



out any promise from any officer of the State of relief in his behalf. However, Voiers, in his testimony against Wiley Lewis, made himself a double murderer; and, instead of his testimony being used for commutation of sentence, it should be used against him. If he were not the principal in the murder of Gibson, he was at least particeps criminis, and was also particeps criminis in the murder of John Cochran. He is therefore a double murderer and should pay the penalty of these crimes.

Another point made by counsel for Voiers is that the law does not allow the conviction of a man merely upon the testimony of accomplices, uncorroborated. This is the law as laid down in the text books, but our Supreme Court, in one or more cases, has held that a man may be convicted on uncorroborated testimony. In the case before me, the evidence is absolutely convincing, and corroborating circumstances and testimony are, therefore not essential. Consequently, I must hold that corroborative testimony is unnecessary, and I, therefore, overrule this point of counsel's argument.

It has been argued before me that Voiers was not legally tried, and was, therefore, not properly convicted. Even if this fact were established, I hold that it is not a proper argument to offer for the commutation of the sentence of Voiers. If the trial were improper and illegal, the conviction was certainly illegal; and if this be true, he should not be punished at all; but counsel do not insist that Voiers should have an outright pardon. They admit quasi guilt, and only ask that the verdict of the Court be commuted from death by hanging to imprisonment for life. If I consider this point at all, I must allow the prisoner to go free, since it is out of my power to grant him a new trial, by which he might be able, according to argument of counsel to prove his innocence of the crime charged against him.

I have read the petitions pro and con in this case. They amount to nothing in treating of the merits of the case before me. The question before me is: "Did Albert Voiers participate in the murder of Charles Gibson, for which he was convicted?" If he did, the verdict of the jury is the proper one. If he did not, he is innocent, and should not be punished at all. The jury and the Court decided that he was guilty. In my judgment, the Court and the jury were correct in their finding. They decided that Voiers was guilty of the murder of Gibson, or

at least was a party to the murder. Subsequently, Voiers, who was confronted with the gallows, and hoping for the commutation of a sentence to imprisonment in the penitentiary for life, and being promised by the officials of the Criminal Court of Kanawha county such immunity, confessed that he was a party to the murder of John Cochran, thereby making himself a double murderer, and for this reason, asks leniency. In view of all the facts I can not grant this plea. He admits guilt in both cases as an accessory, and under the law, an accessory is as guilty as the principal. It seems to me, in view of all the facts, that the law in his case should be allowed to take its course.

Taking the testimony as a whole, which I have examined with carefulness, I am convinced that Albert Voiers was one of the murderers of both Gibson and Cochran, and, inasmuch as the Criminal Court of Fayette county, in the manner provided by law, saw fit to convict him of one of these murders, namely: Charles Gibson, I do not feel it to be my duty to commute the sentence to life imprisonment, as asked by counsel for him. I am compelled, therefore in the interest of public justice and the maintenance of the laws of our State for the protection of life and property, to overrule the motion.

G. W. ATKINSON,  
Governor of West Virginia.

Charleston, August 21, 1897.

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## ADDRESS

*of Governor G. W. Atkinson, D. C. L. of West Va., at Columbus, O., Sept. 9, 1897, at the Reunion of the "Army of W. Va."*

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SOLDIERS OF THE ARMY OF WEST VIRGINIA, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN:

It affords me more than ordinary pleasure to meet with you at this, your 21st assembling as an organized body of soldiers of the late civil war, because your society comprises the volunteers from my own native State of West Virginia. While your

numbers are growing smaller every year, I am glad to be able to testify, from this great gathering, that there are many of you still among us. I wish it were possible for your roll to never grow less.

Our Republic is the "wonder of the world," that towers above all the rest like the stars above the hill-tops; and our soldiers of the late civil war preserved it for their children and their children's children, we trust, forever. The poet and the painter and the historian have made immortal seven "golden periods" in the history of the world. They were Egypt under the Ptolemies, Palestine under Solomon, Athens under Pericles, Rome under Augustus, Italy under Leo X, France under Louis XIV, and England under Elizabeth. I would not detract from the glory which justly belongs to each of these periods of authentic history; but to every student, it seems to me, that each and all must readily admit that another period of government of the people, by the people and for the people, under the providence of God, has within the century that is now grandly rolling out, been added to the list, which outshines them all, and that one is the Republic of the United States. It leads the van of human progress. In growth and greatness it stands unprecedented and unparalleled. It is, without boasting, the foremost Nation beneath the stars; and it stands to-day, without controversy or cavil, as the flag-ship of the world.

Men are qualified for ideal citizenship only in so far as they comprehend its demands and its responsibilities. He who is blind to his Nation's interests is also blind to its wants. He who is either from ignorance or bigotry unable or unwilling to measure the needs of his Government and the wants of its subjects, is unfit to assume any of its burdens and direct in the management of its affairs. The true citizen is a representative of the Nation itself in its broadest life. Peace has its struggles and triumphs as well as war; and to rise to its heights of manly effort requires a broad and earnest comprehension. The majority of our American people, however, have a proper conception of the Nation's needs, and have therefore never failed to measure up to every added responsibility. The soldiers of the late war for the Union are proof positive of the correctness of this conclusion. A nation of patriots make a nation of endurance. There will be no need of a standing army in the United States as long as these soldiers before me and their associates live.



The marvelous development of the American Republic, my friends, is not the mere outgrowth of circumstances. The physical and mechanical power which have enabled a crude and comparatively unlettered people to leap to the forefront in so short space of time, is not circumstantial. It is the outgrowth of the strong and active brains of men and women, aided by machinery of their own invention, applied to the useful arts and sciences of every day life. The power that takes nature's raw materials and fashions them into finished products for every day use, and for the distribution of these necessary articles, comforts and luxuries of life among all classes, of itself produces greatness as well as wealth. This is what our people have been doing for more than a hundred years, and this is why I claim that the seven golden periods of history to which I have alluded, pale into insignificance when compared with the history of the American Republic, which I have classed as the eighth and the last; and our patriot soldiers did their full share in bringing this about. President McKinley, standing by the tomb of General Grant, said "the deeds of a great man never die." This is, in a measure, true; and in this splendid presence of a large remnant of the Army of the Union, I declare, with doubled emphasis, that the heroic deeds of our soldiers at the front cannot perish from the earth.

The lamented Garfield, in his great speech at Arlington National Cemetery, delivered some twenty years ago, said: "If silence be ever golden, it must be here beside the graves of these 13,000 soldiers, whose lives were more significant than speech, and whose death was a poem the music of which was never sung." The martyred President, great as he was, never uttered a grander truth than that. Their lives were truly more significant than the words of poet or historian, and the records they made on the field of conflict will live forever.

Pardon me, my countrymen, for a brief retrospect of the cloudy days of the past to many of those in the audience before me. When the strong arm of rebellion attempted to pull down our flag, the Government at Washington said: We must have a million of men who are willing to go to the front, and if need be, offer their lives for their country's honor and its constitution. Under that call, thousands and tens of thousands promptly went to the front. From nearly fifty thousand homes they went—these citizen soldiers.

How they went forth to die?  
Pale, earnest thousands from the dizzy mills,  
And sunburnt thousands from the harvest hills,  
Quick, eager thousands from the city streets,  
And storm-tried thousands from the fisher's fleets.

How they went forth to die?  
Heeding, yet shrinking not from the hot breath  
Of the fire-angel in the front of death,  
Seeing afar, yet meeting without fear  
The fever-angel lurking in the rear.

How they went forth to die?  
Counting their lives as the unvalued dust  
Trod by a nation, bearing in its trust,  
Content if but their sunken graves should be  
The foot-prints of the progress of the free.

Through 5,574 battles they went, and through four weary years of war they upheld the flag, at a cost of 44,000 killed in battle, 49,000 died of wounds, 189,000 died from disease and exposure, and 160,000 were captured and made prisoners of war, of which number 61,000 gave up their lives in prison pens rather than desert the flag, which all prisoners of war had an offer to do. In this great conflict 340,000 Federal soldiers went down, but they went down, thank God, to honored graves.

Such patriotism, such bravery, such endurance, such obedience to principle, such love of country, and such devotion to the unseen are unparalleled in the history of the world. These soldiers followed Grant and Sherman and Sheridan and Hancock from Forts Donaldson and Henry to Vicksburg, and from Vicksburg to Atlanta, and from Atlanta towards the North again, and finally to Richmond and to Appomattox. They cut in twain the greatest rebellion of modern times, if not of all times, and gave to us one flag instead of two, and gave us also a united country from the surges of the Atlantic to the sunset sea, whose waves make music in the golden sands of California.

On the Boston Common stands a costly granite monument, on which I read and from which I copied this inscription: "To the men of Boston who died for their country upon land and sea in the war which kept the Union whole, destroyed slavery and maintained the Constitution, the grateful city has built this monument, that their example may speak to coming generations."

My friends, that monument and inscription are expressions of true patriotism; and that is the feeling which should be ex-

pressed by all Americans toward, not only the dead, but the surviving soldiers of the war for the Union. If I mistake not the indications of the present, that is the way our entire people will feel and act toward them after a few more generations have come and gone.

The immortal Lincoln—and let me say right here, it makes no difference how high on the pyramid of American statesmen the names of other great men may stand, all unbiased persons will admit that the name of Abraham Lincoln stands pre-eminently above all the rest. The immortal Lincoln, in his great speech at Gettysburg, expressed in language that seemed to be on fire and is blazing yet, that sympathy and love which should be cherished within the breast of every true American, when he said: “It is for us, the living, to dedicate ourselves to the great work which our soldiers, living and dead, have so far, so nobly advanced. It is for us, the living, to consecrate ourselves to the work remaining to be done; that from the graves of these heroes we take increased devotion to the cause for which the dead soldiers of the republic gave the last full measure of devotion; that we here highly resolve that these dead shall have not died in vain; that this Union, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom, and that government of the people, by the people, for the people shall not perish from the earth.”

Fellow citizens, more than any other one thing patriotism constitutes the State. It was not the powers at Washington, during that dark period to which we have been referring that were the government. It was the soldiers in the field. They were the State. High-raised battlements, or thick, massive, walls, or proud cities, or starred and spangled Courts do not constitute a State; but proud noble men—men who know their rights, and knowing dare maintain them; men who back the sovereign law and are loyal to its teachings; men who will crush the tyrant while they rend his chains, and, if necessity requires it, offer themselves as a sacrifice for their country’s good and glory. These constitute a State. Such were our citizen-soldiers in the late war for the Union. Those of you who are yet alive are the Nation’s wards, and a grateful people will see that you are provided for, because you were participants in the greatest war of history.

My countrymen, we rejoice to-day over a united Nation. It was Prentiss who said, “I can stand by the far-away Penob-



scot and say my countrymen. I can stand by the rippling waters of Lake Erie and say my countrymen. I can stand under the shadows of the Rocky Mountains and say my countrymen; and here beside the Father of Waters I can say my countrymen." So, standing here to-day in the Capitol of the great State of Ohio—great in grandeur, great in wealth, great in resources, great in loyalty to the Nation, and great in the service it rendered to our country in the dark days of war—I can with Prentiss say, "My countrymen." Our citizenship is not hemmed in by the lines of States, but like the patriotism of our soldiers, living and dead, it has the majestic sweep of the Continent. The placid Ohio river, as it sweeps for five hundred miles along the border of your State, in its meandering way to the sea, does not tell of New York or Pennsylvania or West Virginia or Kentucky or Indiana or Illinois whose borders it laves; but it tells of one country, one Nation indivisible and inseparable, the greatest, grandest, freest, best government beneath the stars. Yes, my friends, it tells only of the Union our fathers created and these soldiers preserved for us and our posterity forever.

My friends, the war in which these soldiers participated extended over a period of four years, caused a more lavish expenditure of money, and called into the field larger forces of men and arms than any other war of modern times. The fighting was desperate on both sides. Officers and soldiers exhibited a courage and prowess equal, if not superior, to any hitherto on record. The war began with slavery in the ascendant, with cotton ruling the commercial world, the South boastful and defiant, and the governments of Europe predicting the speedy downfall of the American Republic and its division into petty provinces and dominions. It closed, thank God, with slavery effectually abolished; the nations of the world freed from their thralldom to the Southern staple; the South humbled, and though somewhat sullen, yet improving in temper; and the European governments ready to acknowledge the power of republican institutions to pass through an ordeal which would have involved in ruin many of the older and supposed stronger governments of Europe.

It is said that no nation becomes secure without three wars, and it is a pleasing thought that we have had ours. The first was for independence, the second was to justify ourselves before

the foreign nations, the third was the one in which brothers were engaged in deadly combat. Let us hope that this prediction is true as applied to this country, and that in the years to come our fair land may never again be drenched in fraternal blood.

My friends, an important lesson of the late fratricidal conflict is that both personal and political liberty are requisite to develop the highest cast of physical and intellectual manhood. These elements furnish the amplest opportunities for the exercise of that self-control which is the germ and essence of every virtue, and for that expansive and ameliorating culture by which one's entire nature is exalted in the scale of being, and is clothed with the grace, dignity and authority of the lords of creation.

With a noble system of internal improvements, penetrating and rewarding the industry of our people; with moral and intellectual surpassing physical improvements; with churches, school houses and colleges daily multiplying throughout the land, bringing education and religious instruction to the homes of all the people, they may not only challenge the admiration of the civilized world, but conquer in civilization's name every foe that may chance to cross their pathway. These great systems exhibited the individual man—the individual Federal soldier—in a higher degree of development and society in a happier civilization than could possibly be the outgrowth of any government not based upon the solid grounds of universal freedom. Thus standing, thus equipped, thus marshaled in a massive army, like Constantine, the Great, our soldiers in the field looked upward and saw the sign of deliverance under freedom's banner, and in that sign they conquered.

Another lesson of the war, my countrymen, is the great sacrifice, the marvelous sacrifice, that men will make for principle. This lesson of patriotism, this lesson of endurance, this lesson of devotion to the unseen, this lesson of love for the right, can never be forgotten, can never be lost on a cultured, loyal race of men and women like those who make up this and similar audiences to-day. Generations yet unborn will be impressed in the same manner. Adown the ages the multitudes will read and be persuaded that nothing short of principle—great principle—could induce men to make the sacrifices these dead and living soldiers made for their country and their flag.

Still another lesson of the war, is the deep, unflattering love that the masses cherish for the citizen-soldier. Remember, my friends, that these soldiers were not professional soldiers—were not educated for war. They were citizen soldiers; and we should remember also that these citizen-soldiers, this vast army of volunteer citizens, suppressed the most gigantic rebellion that the world has any record of. The English rebellion of the seventeenth century, which began in 1642 by an effort of parliament to seize the military power of the country, was one of the great rebellions of history. In that memorable conflict parliament obtained the ascendancy, Charles II. went to the block in 1649, and a republic succeeded monarchy under the protectorate of Cromwell.

The French revolution of the eighteenth century, which was a violent reaction against that absolutism which had come in the course of time to supplant the old feudal institutions of the country, was also one of the noted rebellions in history; but the American rebellion, in cost and carnage, surpassed them both, and these citizen-soldiers put it down. It took four of the best years of their lives to do the work, but during that time they settled two great questions for all the ages. The first of these great problems was: That human slavery was not of God, nor was it in sympathy with the spirit and genius of our institutions, and it, in consequence of these facts, had to go down. It was burned to death amid the blazing rafters of the Southern Confederacy. The second problem settled was that this is a Nation and not a Confederacy—that the States are not sovereign, but on the contrary, the national government alone is supreme. Now that these two great questions have been disposed of, it is universally conceded that they were properly settled—that the cause of the Union was right, forever right, and the cause of the Confederacy was wrong—forever wrong. Our war was, therefore, just. We want but one Union, one flag, one Constitution, one country, one destiny. Our fathers had no other idea than this. Our interests, our destinies are one. Our land can never be shared in peace by rival nations. In the years to come, let us stand together as we should, so the great Mississippi, unvexed by civil strifes, may sweep on forever in her wandering way to the sea.

These soldiers were actuated by higher and purer motives than any other soldiers that ever assembled; and they exhibited



a spectacle of unyielding fortitude and self-denying magnanimity unequalled in the annals of mankind. Others, for spoils or honor, may have fought as desperately. Others, when far from their homes and their country, have endured and persevered for self-preservation; but where in all history is there an example of a soldiery that continued in the service as did these men, except it was from an inward principle and a sense of duty? They were imbued with a loftier and a more expanded spirit of patriotism and philanthropy and achieved more for the happiness of their country than any other army that ever existed; and where in all the ages is there an act of moral sublimity equal to this last act of self-devotion? It has been aptly said by another that we will never need a standing army in the United States as long as we can even remotely remember the civil contest from 1861 to 1865.

These are some of the achievements of the war for the Union, and this is a part of the record of what the citizen-soldiers of America did for their country in the hour of its greatest peril. Is it anything but reasonable, therefore, that we should honor them to-day?

Still another lesson of the war, my fellow citizens, is the new dispensation it brought to our country and our people. Slavery and state sovereignty were buried in the same grave. In their stead a higher ideal of freedom in the Republic grew up, and greater confidence in our national life was established. In *ante bellum* times all questions of foreign and domestic polity, all economic questions, the relations of labor to capital, and the relations of the States to the Nation, were all influenced and controlled by a constant dread of a dissolution of the Union. Witness to-day the gigantic strides of the great Republic under the new order of things in these *post bellum* times. Our population has actually doubled since the war. Railways have more than quadrupled. The national wealth has grown from twelve billion dollars in 1860 to over fifty billions in 1897. Why, my friends, more wealth has been created in the United States during the last twenty-five years than has been added to the accumulations of the world since the western continent was discovered. The past can offer no parallel to the present, because it knew no similar conditions. The conflict in the past has been largely one of personal right. The citizen has been evolved from the serf, and the freeman from the slave. To this

end all of the forces of civilization have been shaped. The present is not a question of personal right, but of just opportunity. We have simply come upon a new era. The maxims of the past are no longer safe land-marks. The social bases of the past are too narrow for the demands of the present. The domain of personal duty has been greatly enlarged. The relations of the individual have been widely extended. The area of mutual obligations has been amazingly increased. The citizen has become responsible for direction as well as allegiance. The individual is now the pivot of progress, and personal independence is the test of social forces. Under this new regime there is confidence, safety, security everywhere. No phantoms overshadow our land. No specters, either of slavery or secession, haunt us, nor does any abyss yawn for our destruction. Truly we live under a new dispensation. Our people have taken a new departure. They have stepped out on a higher plane of living, and their ideas of national life are as thoroughly new as they were the day they threw off the yoke of British tyranny and became citizens of independent States. There is sunshine in almost every American home. There is increasing prosperity in every business. There is promise of thrift in every calling. The hum of our industries never ceases. Ours as a rule are the most contented people on God's green footstool, and are envied by all the other nations of the world. There is no approaching ship that does not bring to our shores a cargo of human freight to join their interests and their destinies with ours, and to share our blessings and our toils.

But, my fellow citizens, the most important lesson of the great conflict is the demonstrated qualities of strength and endurance which the Union possessed in time of war. Its adhesiveness and elasticity differed materially from the estimates placed upon it by monarchists abroad. I remember of reading when I was a boy that Talleyrand—the philosopher, the bishop, the diplomat—said our republic “is a giant without bones”. Macauley, the prince of English historians, insisted that it “was all sail and no anchor, and consequently could not survive the century.” While De Tocqueville declared “it had no power to sustain itself in case of domestic dissension, and that the Union presented no definite object to patriotic feeling.” The civil war proved these wise-acres to be wrong. The great republic showed itself to be a giant with a back-bone as stiff as Bunker Hill

Monument; that it had massive ballast as well as sail, and that the love of country possessed by our valiant army was the definite object to patriotic feeling that De Tocqueville mourned the absence of. Moreover, it had the strength to overcome the feeling of uncertainty which the spectre of secession created—a spectre that the iron will of Jackson, the magnetic rhetoric of Webster, and the eloquence of Clay could not cause to down, but which went down serenely at the bidding of the men who carried the muskets, and to-day peace and security reign from sea to sea.

A final lesson of the war is that no rule or ruin party can live in this country. The South tried that policy on human slavery and was defeated. It also tried it on State sovereignty and was overwhelmed. The anarchists tried their hand and were badly worsted. The Mafias attempted to blow us up. We will blow them up. All un-American isms of whatever name and kind must yield to our higher ideas of right. Monarchists for a century have been praying for our ruin. We will live to ruin them if they cross our path of progress. Revolutionists can find no home here. Americans will destroy and crush to death any party or body of men that will set themselves up to ruin or to rule. The civil war settled this principle forever.

My countrymen, pardon me for one thought more: Let us not believe in death, but in immortality. Let us believe that to our dead soldiers has been given such places as suit the full grown energies of heaven. Let us believe that nothing can bereave them of the records they have made here, and that they are now something far advanced in state, and that they wear brighter crowns than man can ever weave them.

Let us pledge ourselves anew to rear to the memories of these soldiers living and dead this fabric of State, until its towering monument shall catch the first rays of the rising and the last rays of the setting sun. As an army in war fighting for unity and peace:—

"Your work is done.  
But while the race of mankind endure,  
Let your great example stand  
Colossal, seen of every land,  
And keep the soldiers firm, the statesmen pure,  
Till in all lands and through all human story,  
The path of duty be the way to glory.

"For though the giant ages heave the hill,  
And break the shore, and and evermore



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Make and break, and work their will:  
Though world on world in myriad myriads roll  
Round us, each with different powers,  
And other forms of life than ours,  
What know we greater than the soul?  
On God and godlike men we build our trust."

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## ADDRESS

*of Governor Atkinson, at Huntington, W. Va., during the Tri-State Reunion, Grand Army of the Republic.*

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*September 15th, 1897.*

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MR. PRESIDENT, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN:—

This large gathering of Union soldiers, from three States, assembled to-day in the marvelous valley of the Ohio, means more than the mere assembling together. It recalls scenes of carnage in which all of you acted a noble part, and in so doing, you preserved your Country and its flag. I love my native State. I love her people. I love her magnificent mountains and her charming vales. I love the majestic Ohio river as it sweeps past our homes, on its meandering way to the sea, bearing upon its bosom the products of our mills, our factories, our farms and our forges. Hemmed in on either side by God's grand hills, rock-ribbed and towering in the sunlight, which look down as unwavering sentinels upon our splendid achievements, our marvelous development, and our magnificent destiny, could I do otherwise than admire and love such a river and such surroundings? My countrymen, God never made a richer and more beautiful valley than the charming, prosperous valley of the Ohio.

Talk as you may of the Rhine and the Rhone and the Seine and the Arve and the Tiber and the Thames. Those valleys are all rich and beautiful and picturesque and grand; but the Ohio—our own Ohio—with its salt, and its clay, and its iron, and its coal, and its oil, and its gas, and its stone, and its timber, and its climate, and its soil, and its scenery excels them all.

"Bright are the waters of Sing-su-hay,  
And sweet are the floods that thitherward stray,"  
Yet O, 'tis only the American can say,  
How the waters of the Ohio outshine them all.

The possibilities of this valley are incalculable. Its wealth, like that of Cræsus, cannot be told—cannot be estimated; and its inhabitants are among the broadest, noblest, manliest, bravest, best people that to-day tread the earth beneath God's sunshine.

My friends and fellow citizens, a very pleasant duty has been assigned to me to-day, by your Committee of Arrangements—that of speaking for the large body of citizens who did *not* bear arms in the late rebellion; but who were *smart* enough, if you will allow the expression, to never carry a musket or a canteen or a knapsack or a sword or a pistol or a bowie-knife. This privilege was assigned to me, I suppose, because your Committee knew that I did not spill very much blood myself in that ever memorable conflict—the late civil war. From the great army of "stay-at-homes" in 1861, they evidently wanted some brave (?) civilian to deliver a few brief and feeble utterances upon this occasion, and somehow they fell upon your humble servant to perform this very important duty. (Laughter.)

Mr. President, where one man went to war in 1861, about fifty staid at home; and I have the melancholy pleasure to inform you that I was one of that fifty. (Applause). My soldier friends, looking back over your experiences from 1861 to '65, do you blame me for that? (Cries of "No, no.") Every one of you, brave as you are and were, laid awake many a night gnawing a file and blaming yourself for being foolish enough to volunteer in an army to stand out in open field for \$13 a month, and let a lot of "Johnnies" shoot at you for three years, or during the war. (Loud laughter.) A thousand times and more, every one of you—and I do not discount your bravery either as soldiers or men—prayed for a wall of granite forty feet thick, to rise up between you and the enemy; and not only that, you prayed that it might remain there until the end of the war. (Loud applause.) If any brave old soldier in this audience to-day wants to deny it, let him stand up and be counted. (Laughter.)

But, Mr. President, I myself was in the army. I, though not yet sixteen, mustered up a superabundance of courage and enlisted in 1864 in the "Feather-bed service" of "Uncle Sam."

(Laughter.) I was one of that great army of braves who volunteered in the "Quartermaster's department" at \$100.00 a month and rations; and with perhaps ten thousand others of the same "kidney," fought and bled and died for liberty. (Loud laughter.)

Fellow soldiers and comrades, you don't know how much we of the Feather-bed brigade suffered during the late unpleasantness; but our suffering was for pay-day to come—nothing else. We used to suffer terribly when we were forced to discount our monthly certified accounts twenty-five per cent. on the dollar. We almost sweat blood when we had to do that; and we nearly always had to do it. (Cries of "Served you right.") It seemed that it was fore-ordained that a paymaster should never come around when we patriotic Feather-bed fellows needed him most. (Laughter.) The sutler generally reached us first, and my recollection is vivid that he invariably skinned with a fearfully sharp knife. (Laughter.) You need not laugh, for some of you old soldiers got shaved with the same keen knife, and doubtless the scars are on you yet. (Loud applause, and cries of "That's so.")

But what would you soldier boys have done if it had not been for us—"us stay-at-homes?" How would you have gotten your \$13.00 a month of our greenback promises to pay that weren't worth over thirty-three cents on the dollar, if we had not remained at home and run the printing presses to make that money for you? (Laughter.) Where would your "hard tack" and your beans and your pickled pork and that other kind of meat (you know what you always called it). (Loud laughter and cries of "sow-belly;") where would all these splendid articles of subsistence have come from, if it had not been for the loyal and energetic efforts of those stay-at-home patriots that I am speaking for to-day? (Applause.) Echo answers where? (Laughter.) One of your brave band told me only a few hours ago, that although it had been twenty-five years since the war closed, yet, in all that time, he had not had the courage to look a bean squarely in the face. (Tremendous applause.) And as to hard-tack, he told me he had registered a vow to shoot on the spot the first fellow that ever had the temerity to offer him an army cracker. (Uproarious laughter.) That soldier has sense; and I have no doubt that he spoke the inward sentiments of the entire U. S. Army of the three States represented here to-day. (Cries of "that's so.")



Mr. President, I fear I am digressing. Didn't we send our sons, our nephews, our uncles, our brothers, and our fathers to the front to do the fighting? (Laughter.) And didn't we stay at home to care for the women and the children? (Laughter.) And wasn't that both gallant and patriotic? (Laughter.) We felt for you when you were out fighting for the flag and the Constitution; and I tell you we always felt mighty comfortable when we had a whole field full of haystacks between us and the enemy. (Loud applause.) Without reflecting upon any of these old soldiers, who fought as bravely as any soldiers that ever trod the earth, yet I hazzard nothing when I say that many of them often prayed for a row of haystacks, or a solid stone wall to rise up before them, and remain there for three years, or during the war. (Great applause.) Of course they will not admit it now, but they know it is nevertheless the truth. (Cries of that's so.) Even those of us, Mr. President, who were fighting in the "Featherbed service" used to lie awake of nights when we knew the enemy was within fifty miles of us; (Laughter.) and somehow we always knew when they were within even a thousand miles of us. (Loud laughter.) When our stomachs wouldn't digest and our blood wouldn't circulate, we always knew something was wrong. We knew the "Johnnies" were around. (Applause.) We were all brave men, of course, but if my recollection serves me, we were always happiest and bravest when the enemy was farthest away. (Loud laughter.)

But, my dear comrades in arms, didn't these "stay-at-homes", whom I am trying vigorously and ably to defend, (Laughter) do more than send you your greenbacks, your hard-tack, your beans and your pickled pork? Certainly we did. (Laughter.) We stood behind you, and encouraged you to get South of the enemy and push him to the death. (Loud applause.) Didn't we write flaming newspaper articles about your bravery, and send them to you at the front? Didn't we at all times and upon all occasions, furnish a vast amount of noise and a world of red fire? (Applause.) Didn't we paint our towns red every time you won a great victory? (Laughter.) Didn't our girls write love-letters to you and urge you to shoot the life out of the Confederacy and smash it into Smithereens? (Great applause.) Of course we did. We stood right behind you, but it was like Peter following the Master—it was at a very great dis-

tance. It was a long ways off. (Applause.) We, however, felt it to be our imperative duty, in those critical times, to observe more than the ordinary rules of health. (Laughter and applause.) We did not consider it by any means a healthy locality, when frying-pans, pieces of pots and skillets and railroad spikes and things like those filled the air, and when musket-balls rained around us like hailstones. (Deafening applause, and cries, "We've been there.")

Mr. President, when you consider all these things,—when you reflect upon the valiant services we rendered you when you were at the front, will you dare say now that we were not patriotic then? (Laughter.) Any way, we were patriots of the second class, if we did not reach up to the order of the first magnitude; and we are here to-day to clasp hands with you. (Applause.) We own up that we owe you a debt of gratitude that we can never repay; but we are trying to pay it as best we can; and I sometimes think we are making a very poor fist of it.

My friends, just one thought more, and I am done. It is the unfaltering love that the masses cherish for the soldiers of the Republic. You were not professional soldiers. You were volunteer soldiers. You followed Grant and Sherman and Sheridan and Hancock and Hayes and Duval and Kelley and Powell, the most of whom were professional soldiers, from Donaldson to Vicksburg, and from Vicksburg to Atlanta, and from Atlanta towards the North again, and finally to Richmond and to Appomatox. You citizen-soldiers cut the greatest rebellion of history in two, and gave us one flag instead of two, and gave us a united country from ocean to ocean. (Great applause.)

This is what the citizen soldier did for his country in the hour of its greatest peril, and this is why he will be honored and loved by all good people from one extreme of the Republic to the other. (Applause.) I know of no record anywhere for self-sacrifice, for bravery, for superiority to toil, and for devotion to the unseen at all comparable with that exercised by these citizen-soldiers of America in the war for the Union. (Applause.)

One of Cleopatra's Obelisks, a few years ago, at great cost, was removed from Alexandria, in Egypt, to New York City. As one looks upon its strange hieroglyphics he cannot fail to be impressed with the thought that this wonderful obelisk—this so-called Needle of the great queen—stood for two thousand

years as a silent witness to the rise and fall of the Egyptian monarchy. It has stood as the Cæsars, the Pharaoh's, the Ptolmies, the Moslems, the Greeks, and the Romans passed by its base, and doubtless paused and looked upon its strange records. Those old nations were rich and learned and great, but they represented aristocracy and oligarchy, and not liberty. (Applause.) They have all gone, while the Obelisk to-day stands upon a new Continent and looks down upon a new civilization. Beneath its shadow we Americans are working out a new destiny based upon a new idea; and our soldiers of the late war, like this Needle of Cleopatra, are so many sentinels to the doctrine of liberty for which they fought, based upon universal freedom and the equal rights of every citizen beneath our flag. (Loud applause.)

My countrymen, let us resolve to-day that nothing shall take from our brave soldiers the records they have made here; and that when they surrender their trusts and go forever from us, they will wear brighter crowns than man can ever weave them. (Continued applause.)

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## ALUMNÆ ADDRESS

*By Governor Geo. W. Atkinson, Ph. D., at Rockville  
Female College,*

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*June 1, 1897.*

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LADIES AND GENTLEMEN:

This is an age of wonderful activity. It is beyond question, an age of "air lines" and "through trains." If we hope or expect to accomplish anything for ourselves and our associates and friends we must get aboard the lightning express train. We cannot tarry. If we hesitate, we may be left. Think of our wonderful system of steam navigation; of our trains of cars running through these rock-ribbed hills forty miles an hour; of our telegraph wires, which unite all the nations of the earth, and place them



within speaking distance with one another; of our telephones, by means of which the voices of our friends are recognized more than a thousand miles away. Think, if you please, of all these recent grand discoveries in science, which are not only valuable in a personal and a business sense, but, better than all, are the means of welding the whole world of mankind into a common brotherhood. There are two things I believe above everything else,—they are the Fatherhood of God and the Brotherhood of man. The Constitution and laws of all nations differ. All systems of religion are unlike; but underlying them all is the one grand, central truth, which all seem to recognize, though we cannot tell why, that God is the Father of mankind, and that all mankind, somehow, and in some way, are brothers. God brought every one of us into existence, and we are one in nature, one in feeling, one in sympathy, one in our aims in life, one in destiny.

Every nation has its Mecca. Every home circle has its consecrated spot. Indeed, all the world has its sacred places consecrated to the memories of the past. To the old Rock at Plymouth, every New England heart will turn with anxious longing, from whatever portion of the globe he or she may have wandered. The old Hall at Philadelphia, wherein our Nation was born, will be forever precious to the American heart, and every freeman will feel toward it as the child will feel for its earliest home, though he or she may have wandered to the ends of the earth, and grown gray beneath the burden of the years ago.

So with the home where we first saw the light,—however humble it may be, or decayed and wasted it may have grown under the wailings of the winds or the peltings of the storms. The old college, where we used to go to school, is as dear to us as the apples of our eyes. Thus all of us have our ideal spots where affections cling as the ivy about the oak; and however much we may desire so to do, we cannot shake them off. But we do not desire to forget them. To these consecrated places cling the hearts of the generations as they pass. It is well that it is so.

These memories and affections recall us from our wanderings, and cause us to feel that we are interested in one another's welfare, and have a common interest in building up and beautifying the community in which we live, and of

which we are an integral parcel and part. These kind of attractions are stronger than wealth, stronger than honor, stronger than life. We need them, my friends. They are God-given, and are shrines around which we bend in dreams and in dying.

Why should we not be joyful to-night? Why should we not render thanks to Him who caused our lines to fall in such pleasant places? But we are happy to-night. Gathered here are many who have gone out from these halls of learning, and found from experience that life is both real and earnest; and you have found out also that, after all, this is a beautiful world, and that the educations you received here have aided you greatly in making it still more beautiful. What a delightful thought!—making the world better, purer, brighter, nobler, grander. This is what you are doing, I trust. And you have been thinking, too, I hope. I mean thinking for yourselves—forging your own thoughts. If your *Alma Mater* did no more for you, when you were students in it, than to teach you how to do your own thinking, it rendered you a service of incalculable worth.

“Better than gold is a thinking mind,  
That in realms of thought and books can find;  
A treasure surpassing Peruvian ore,  
And live with the great and good of yore.  
The sages love and the poets lay,  
The glories of empires past away—  
Who the world’s great scroll can thus unfold,  
Enjoys a pleasure better than gold.”

We are not here to-night, my friends, so much to talk about *how* to educate, or *how* to procure an education, as to speak of its *merits*,—what it has done for men and women everywhere, what it has done for the world, what it has done for *you*.

First of all, education develops, expands, ennobles, beautifies, and fits us all for usefulness. The time was when uneducated persons could manage to worry through the world: but that time has past I trust forever. An uneducated person, in this age of the world, is like a onebladed knife with the rest of the blades shut up and rusted over. All must admit that educated labor is worth more than uneducated and unskilled labor. Why, even mortar is better when mixed with brains.

“True knight of learning,  
The world holds him dear,  
Love bless him, joy crown him,  
God speed his career.”

But what has education done for you, my friend? What have you been doing, these years, since you left these College halls? Have you been driving or drifting—which? Just how much life means, words refuse to tell, because they cannot. The very door-way of life is hung around with flowery emblems, to indicate that it is for some purpose. Life may be grand. God intended it to be glorious, and so paved its course with diamonds, fringed its banks with flowers and over-arched it with stars; while around it he has spread the physical universe—suns, moons, worlds, constellations, systems—all that is magnificent in motion, sublime in magnitude, and grand in order and obedience.

How few there are who appreciate the grandeur of life. To float lazily down the stream is to move forward, but unless the speed is increased by personal effort, the individual will find himself or herself always at the same distance from that which he or she is following. How has it been with you?—drifting or driving: which? Have you made the most and the best of the powers God was pleased to bestow upon you, and have you turned to the best possible account every outward advantage within your reach?

“Come, labor on:  
Who dare stand idle on the harvest plain,  
While all around them waves the golden grain,  
And every servant hears the Master say,  
Go, work to-day?”

“Come, labor on:  
The laborers are few, the field is wide,  
New stations must be filled and blanks supplied;  
From voices distant far, or near at home,  
The call is ‘Come.’”

“Come, labor on:  
The enemy is watching night and day,  
To sow the tares, to snatch the seed away:  
While we in sleep our duty have forgot,  
He slumbered not.

“Come, labor on:  
No time for rest, ’till glows the western sky,  
While the long shadows o’er our pathway lie,  
And a glad sound comes with the setting sun,  
‘Servants, well done!’”

“Come, labor on:  
The toil is pleasant, the reward is sure;  
Blessed are those who to the end endure;  
How full their joy, how deep their rest shall be,  
O Lord, with Thee.”



Has this education about which we have been speaking, taught you to be humble, or has it made you arrogant and haughty? Has it made you charitable, and given you a genuine sympathy for the weak and the helpless with whom you are surrounded on every hand? Has it done this much for you my friend? Do you help the poor; make dresses for indigent children; sing sweet songs to them in their loneliness and sorrow; give money for their relief; teach them cleanliness, and help to educate them generally? They need relief in *fact*—not in theory. Theoretical benefactors and reformers are a curse to the world. Some admire fine architecture for church edifices, but refuse to give a dollar towards erecting them. Some admire elegant preaching, and when the collection basket is passed, with hands covered with Alexander Kids, they reach down in their wallets, through Government coupons, through hundred dollar bills, through twenty dollar gold pieces, through negotiable notes drawing eight per cent. interest, and with an apparent earnest effort to do something great, they fish out one cent and give it to the Lord. Women, as a rule, do not do this. They are always faithful, always first in deeds of generosity and sympathy and love. I have seen grand processions, and have heard the Church bells toll the solemn funeral knell; but in many cases that was all there was of it. Some one had gone to the grave, yet the world had lost nothing. But an active, faithful toiler among the poor is always missed. When Josephine died more than ten thousand of the helpless poor of France followed her funeral corse to the grave, and wept great tears of sorrow because their best and truest friend had been called away forever.

In 1855, when the English soldiers returned from the Crimean war, the Queen distributed medals on which were engraved the four great battles of Alma, Balaklava, Inkermann, and Sebastapol. What an occasion was that for Brittain, my friends! But a brighter day than that still is coming for that greater and grander army of noble men and women who, in life's conflict, won the great battle over self, and used their talents and their powers for the elevation of their race, when they shall some time receive their rewards beside the river of life in yonder palace of jasper and gold.

Knowledge is valuable, but goodness is better. There is no wisdom like wisdom divine. When the seas are roaring, when the earth is quaking, and the rocks are rending, there is no time for a

display of knowledge. You will want God then, my friend. It remains for you, by your life here, to decide whether you in that solemn moment will be secure and safe. This much I am sure of, however, a life of *trusting* and a life of *giving* cannot be a failure.

Write it in lines of gold  
Upon thy heart and in thy mind  
The stirring words unfold;  
And in misfortune's dearest hour,  
Or fortune's prosperous gale,  
It will have a holy charming power,  
There is no such word as fail.

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## ORATION

*Delivered by Gov. Geo. W. Atkinson, Ph. D., at Keyser, West Virginia.*

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*July 4, 1897.*

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LADIES AND GENTLEMEN:

Nations like men grow. Some grow fast—others slow. They are governed by conditions. If one's blood is clean and the circulation free, the subject is healthy and growth is steady and sure. So it is with Nations. The Republic of the United States was launched, one hundred and twenty-one years ago to-day, on the waters of human history by hopeful and ambitious builders. Thus far it has successfully plowed its majestic way unshaken and unchecked. Rocks and breakers it has often struck, but they have only served to make it stronger. It is the greatest, grandest craft to-day on all the seas of earth and history. Once it was believed to be wrecked and lost and sunk to rise no more forever; but when the fever of internecine strife, and the smoke of battle cleared away, it was discovered to be moving majestically onward, its colors streaming in God's sun-

light undimmed, not a bolt wrenched, not a timber shivered, and on this, its natal day, after all the shocks of battle, it stands out boldly and unmistakably the foremost Nation beneath the stars. It leads the van of human progress. In growth and greatness it stands unprecedented and unparalled. It is to-day, beyond cavil or controversy, the flag-ship of the world.

Some great man said, I believe it was Patrick Henry, "I hail the day as not far distant, when it will be looked upon as the proudest exclamation of man, *I am an American.*" In its physical conditions its limits and dimensions, its climatology, its general natural advantages, and its religious and intellectual possibilities, no country on God's foot-stool is at all comparable with the Government of the United States. I doubt if we as Americans have a just apprehension of the ideas, principles and facts of life as are revealed to us in American citizenship. Men are qualified for ideal citizenship only in so far as they comprehend its demands and its responsibilities. He who is blind to his Nation's interests is also blind to its wants. He who is either, from ignorance or bigotry, unable or unwilling to measure the needs of his government and the wants of its subjects, is unfit to assume any of its burdens and direct in the management of its affairs.

The true citizen is a representative of the Nation itself in its broadest life. Peace has its struggles and triumphs as well as war; and to rise to its heights of manly effort requires a broad and earnest comprehension. For this reason we are called upon to-day to look at its one American nationality in present development and future greatness. To this end we have learned an important lesson, I trust, which we should never lose sight of, to wit: that each individual citizen, male or female, reinforces society, and that organization and unity of purpose are essential to the best possible results. As family, society, state, nation, church,—all teach us to take our part in each of these, without clash or collision, for the good and growth of each and all. This, my countrymen, is the supreme lesson of the hour. This is the supreme lesson of genuine Americanism. This is why we celebrate this day; and this is why we flaunt our flags, our bands play the "starspangled banner", our choirs sing "America", and our people rejoice and are glad from ocean to ocean and from the lakes to the gulf.

Bear with me, my countrymen, while I attempt to show you,



in as few words as possible, what we have accomplished as a Nation, and advance some reasons why we have reached the top rung of the ladder of the mighty Nations of the earth.

First of all, let us scan the location and character of our national domain. But few of our people, I trow, have given even a passing thought to this important matter. We look upon China, with her four hundred millions of subjects, as not only great in the numbers of her people, but great in area as well; and yet you may lay China down upon the territory of the United States, and there will be a fringe around the outside broad enough to furnish territory for two or three first-class European nationalities. Russia, though vast in domain, is a babe when compared to us. Alaska, which we purchased from her, if spread out along side of her mother, is almost as large in acreage as the mother herself; and yet we count Alaska almost as zero in the make-up of our Republic. Germany and France and Spain and the Netherlands and England—all rich and prosperous and great as first-class powers in the government of the world—still they are but garden spots when compared with the territorial area of the United States. Place all these great States side by side, and lay our single State of Texas on top of them, and you couldn't find one of them with a ten thousand lens microscope, if you were to search for a thousand years. (Laughter and applause.) Texas, which is only one of our forty-four States, has 265,780 square miles of territory, and is greater in acreage than Germany, France, Spain, Italy and England combined. Let Texas fall, and she would crush out of sight forever all of these boasted first-class Nations of the earth. If Texas alone were to sit down on them, Gabriel's trumpet would never resurrect the remains. (Applause.) And yet they talk about big-ness and greatness. They are as a mouse compared with an elephant if their territorial provinces are left out. (Laughter and applause.) If we are ever forced into a scrimmage with any of the smaller of them, we wouldn't use canister,—mustard-seed shot would be big enough for them. (Laughter.)

We have seventy-five million population in the United States; and if we desire so to do, we can locate all of our people in Texas, and furnish each citizen a ten acre farm, and will have land enough left to give every citizen of Ireland, Scotland and Wales a five acre garden spot besides, all on the soil of Texas. This is strong talk, but it cannot be successfully controverted. We

have profound respect for the Nations of Europe; but in area they are too small to talk about on a great occasion like this. I have no feeling of hostility towards any foreign Nation. On the contrary I have the kindest feelings for all of them. We do not anticipate trouble with any of them but Spain; but today, while we are sizing up our energies and power as a Nation; while we have measured our girth and taken our heft in avoirdupois, naturally "we feel our oats" and our importance as a national factor—we could not feel otherwise. It is but natural that we should feel like that great leviathan of the West, who weighed a ton, smelt like a wolf, and this was his night to howl. (Laughter and applause.) We are not courting a "fuss," but if any European power should seek to trample on the "Monroe Doctrine," and will come at us for redress—one by one—we will meet them at Philippi, like Cassius met Brutus. And yet we, as a Nation, favor peace instead of war. There is absolutely no longer need for war except for the freedom and the elevation of the down-trodden and oppressed in the dark places of the world. The civilized nations should stand for a Parliament of peace. They should print upon their banners in letters of burnished gold so large that they can be seen across the seas, "No more forever shall a sword be drawn, or a musket be leveled in a war for greed or gain." Civilization and education and Christianity are already demanding this, and, in the fulness of time, it will come. (Applause.) The United States leads the procession in the march of the Nations for the universal liberation of the human race. The watch-cry of the future will be peace, not war; education, not ignorance; up liberty, and oppression down. (Applause.)

But, my fellow citizens, you will observe that I have thus far merely mentioned Alaska as one of our provinces. In speaking of the United States, we rarely refer to it as a factor. Though it contains a big batch of territory, it is too far away to merit more than a passing consideration. When we allude to the Republic of the United States, we regard Kearney City, Nebraska, as the geographical centre, with the centre of population at or about Indianapolis, in the State of Indiana. But when we take into account the 578,204 square miles of Alaska, which, of course, is a part of our domain, we are non-plussed in fixing the centre of our area, as well as the centre of our population. The subject is absolutely too big to figure on or talk about. It dazes one to compass it.

If the United States "Cardiff giant" were to lie down to-day on the map of modern civilization, his body would extend across England, Germany, France, Spain and Italy, his head would rest in the lap of Russia, his massive limbs would spread over Switzerland and the Netherlands, and his heels would touch British India and push Africa off the map; and doubtless would frighten Australia so badly that she would "take to the woods," like the darkey boy at the Camp Meeting, (Laughter). This, my countrymen, is but a faint figure of our territorial greatness; and it is not a whit overdrawn.

In attempting to survey the growth of mankind in physical, intellectual, moral and religious development, we find nothing comparable with the Republic of the United States. In like manner our wealth surpasses all other nations; and it is not the mere outgrowth of circumstances which has brought this about. The physical and mechanical power which have enabled a crude, unlettered people to jump to the forefront in so short a space of time, is not circumstantial. It is the outgrowth of the strong and active brains of men and women aided by machinery of their own invention, applied to the useful arts and sciences of every day life. The power that takes nature's raw materials and fashions them into finished products for every day use, and for the distribution of these necessary articles, comforts and luxuries of life, among all classes, of itself produces greatness as well as wealth. This is what we have been doing as a Nation for a hundred years; and this alone has made us great.

As to the physical, the mechanical and the intellectual forces that are the bases of growth of all Nations, we find nothing in history to compare with the United States. Our country possesses, beyond question, the greatest productive power of any government on the earth. As production is wealth, therefore the Nation which produces most must of necessity be the wealthiest Nation. Our energy, or productive power, is equal to Great Britain, France and Germany combined. One American, by actual statistics, has more energy in productive force than two Germans or four Frenchmen, however advanced they may be in education, culture and refinement, and however much they may have had the start of us in the race between the Nations of the world.

If we were to-day to classify the wealth of our country under



the two heads of rural or city, we will find that the rural, or agricultural wealth has increased fourfold during the past forty years, and the city, or urbane, has multiplied sixteenfold. The farming interests have had many drawbacks and have not advanced as perhaps they should, yet if the United States had no urbane population or industries whatever, the advance of our agricultural interests, though cramped as they appear to be, would be enough to claim the admiration of mankind, for they have no parallel in history. (Applause.)

Complain as we may, my fellow citizens, it is nevertheless a fact that an ordinary farm-hand in the United States raises as much grain as three men in England, four in France, 5 in Germany, and 6 in Austria. This difference, however, is chiefly attributable to the waste of power in Europe, because of the lack of such mechanical appliances as are in use in this country. When I was a boy twenty-five or thirty years ago, working on a farm, we plowed corn with a bull-tongue and a single shovel plow; but yesterday as I was coming down to your thriving little city, I saw men plowing with cultivators riding in sulkies. When I was a boy we harvested wheat with a cradle, and now-a-days a man rides on the spring seat of a reaper and does the work of a-half dozen men. This is the reason why we surpass all other nations in productive energy. China and Japan and Africa still cling to the wooden plow. Europe adheres mainly to the farm implements of fifty years ago, while our farmers ride on spring seats, covered by umbrellas, and the poor horses do the work. (Laughter.)

Pardon me, my fellow-citizens, for advancing some additional reasons for our marvelous national development. Freedom towers above all the other causes of our growth. It is God's great law that all living creatures shall be free. The caged bird longs and cries for the sky's free air. It is nature's law to think and act for one's self. It has been thus from Adam down to McKinley, and it always will be so. (Applause.)

Free labor, free thought and free speech, beyond every other factor, lie at the bottom of our great prosperity. Everything prospers under a free sky. No man is a man unless he owns himself. No man can successfully reach out for conquests unless his arms are free. I have often felt that water flows freer, and grass grows more luxuriantly under a free sky. One thing I am sure of, and that is, men grow bigger and greater and stronger

when their locks are fanned by the air of liberty. (Applause.) Every man in our Republic is a freeman, and is privileged to do as he pleases, so long as he pleases to do right. Nowhere to-day, beneath the shadow of our flag, can there be found the foot-print of a slave. Every avenue is open to all alike. In this country grit and gumption are the *sine qui non* of success. In this free, intelligent, driving age, if one does not succeed, it is his own fault. If he allows another to shove him out of the procession, he alone is to blame, and he deserves to go to the rear. The unbroken cord of freedom makes all our people one. When Gibbon closed his discussion of the reign of Marcus Aurelius, he said the second century was the happiest period of the world. That century, I grant, was a climax of progress, but it is eclipsed by the closing decade of the nineteenth century, mainly because the promised bow of freedom arches every sky. Over the relics of slavery in all lands, freemen to-day are building stately homes. The legions of almost forgotten monarchs are sleeping beneath the tread of freedom's hosts, and on every sepulcher of history are strewn the ashes from the camp-fires of the army of progress. (Applause.) Thank God, in our day and generation an Elijah has been completely merged in a John the Baptist, and a Moses in an Apostle Paul. Allelujah! the world is moving on!!

I assign, as another great factor in our growth, free education. Crude men are incompetent for self-government. Educated men are most easily managed. The day of raw-leather men has passed. Greece and Rome had highly educated subjects; but education was confined to a few. The masses were ignorant and uncultured, and the ignorant many finally swallowed the educated few; so Greece and Rome went down, and are only worthy of note because of the history they made.

The impartial providence of God is the sternest leveler that ever marched in the van of revolution; and that grand providence has planted the truth in the minds of all observers, that mental energy and intellectual development are the massive battering-rams which the Creator intends to use in breaking down the wills of men, and bringing them to a submission of the teachings and requirements of his will and word. (Applause.)

The reason that the Greeks in olden times were practically invincible, was because they were better educated than the bar-

barian hordes that surrounded them. The reason that France was prostrated by Germany in the Franco-Prussian war, was because every German soldier had been a pupil in a public school, and carried a Holy Bible in his pocket and could read it; while the French, the bravest men on earth, had no public school training, and carried nothing but knapsacks and guns. An educated man, armed only with a pocket filled with stones, is more to be dreaded in battle than an ignoramus with a Gatling gun. (Laughter.) Teachers and preachers are more powerful than an uneducated army with banners and sabers. Education has ever ruled ignorance, and always will. The public school forces of the United States to-day, could have stood off successfully the combined armies of Hannibal and Xerxes and Alexander.

Another reason for our national prosperity may be accounted for in the fact that our people are educated morally and religiously as well as intellectually.

Egypt was the mother of learning. From the summits of her monuments and temples, the dust of four hundred centuries look down upon the traveler of to-day. That great and intelligent race of men that inhabited the valley of the Euphrates has also left its impress upon the centuries as an intelligent and cultered body of men. Greece, herself, was the acknowledged centre of learning in her day, and whose mouldering ruins give to her lasting fame. Rome, which sat upon her seven hills, and from her throne of beauty ruled the world, next to Greece was the most highly cultured of the ancient nations of the East. And where are all these empires to-day? Almost faded from the map of the world, and are only known for what they have been in the past. Why did they shoot like rush-light stars across the sky? Why was not their civilization more lasting? I answer, because they had no ethical knowledge of their being,—because they failed to develop the moral and spiritual natures of their subjects. It is, of course, proper to cultivate the intellect, but the moral and spiritual natures should also be developed. An intellectual man with a dwarfed moral nature, is lopsided and dangerous. Education at the expense of morals, will wreck any man or Nation on the earth. A nation that educates the minds and morals of its subjects properly and proportionately, will always prosper and endure; indeed, it ought to live forever.

The United States, by its public school system and its thous-



ands of religious organizations, is far in the fore-front of all other governments in the general education of its citizens. The last census (1890) shows that 87 per cent. of our total population over ten years of age could read and write. I here fearlessly assert that in the history of the human race, no nation ever before possessed forty one million instructed citizens. Nor are there any other people who write on the average half as many letters as our American fellow citizens. We send through the mails 110 letters per head of the population per annum, as against 74 in Switzerland, 60 in Great Britain and 53 in Germany. This latter fact speaks well for the strength of family attachments, and the business activities of our people.

A further reason which may be given for the advancement of our country, is the separation of the Church and the State. Wickliffe and Luther, under God, made religious intolerance measurably a thing of the past. Our Government was born as a result of this intolerance, and it has prospered because no Church or creed could proscribe its people. The religions of Greece and Rome were the warp and woof of those governments, and were filtered into the lives of their subjects. The Cæsars were all high priests. The old kings of past centuries were the spiritual advisers of their constituents. The Church practically rules France, and in England she had, for centuries, her representatives in the Parliament of the throne. In Germany, Church and State have always been blended; but, thank God, in the United States of America no man is dominated by any religious sect, and is privileged to belong to any Church of his choice, and worship Almighty God according to the dictates of his conscience. In America, our Pilgrim fathers planted their religious edifice upon a broad and enduring foundation. Blessed be the land of our Fathers, for it is the only land where political and religious freedom are alike assured!

Still another reason for our marvelous and unprecedented progress as a Nation may be accounted for in the superior genius of our people. Germany may claim to be the seat of Universities and great learning; France, the school of soldiers, and England the originator of the improvement of the mechanic arts; but the United States masters the world in inventive genius. Freedom stimulates genius. No Chaldean astronomer ever measured a year or foretold an eclipse. The alphabet was invented in the east, but no line of language of profane history

was transmitted to us written in that alphabet. The Egyptians piled up monuments toward the sky, but the free Greeks and Romans, under Republican forms of government, were alone the architects of temples which have been used as models through the centuries. Trace, if you will, the literatures of all peoples from the Alexandrian age to the present, and you will find that genius withered as liberty declined, and grew with the growth of freedom. It has ever been true that genius moves *pari passu* with liberty and free thought.

To America, therefore, the world owes its greatest blessings of discovery. It was Franklin who bottled the lightning, and with Edison's perfections of Franklin's thought, the world is being ruled in a large degree by electricity. Fulton mastered steam; and to-day there are twenty-five million horse-power steam engines at work, and the United States, with less than one-twentieth of the population of the globe, is using one-third of all these engines. Americans perfected the great system of railroads which girt the world with bands of steel. On the 30th of June, 1896, we were operating 178,708 miles of track in the United States, employing 35,492 locomotives, 1,278,078 cars, and employing 779,608 laborers at a daily salary of over ten millions of dollars. The amount of capital invested in these lines of roads was \$4,824,075,659, and the net earnings for that year were \$341,947,475.00.

Morse discovered telegraphy, Bell invented the telephone; and along this line no man can tell what Edison has not done. But this is not all. Nearly all of the labor-saving inventions now in use everywhere, are the result of American genius. We are a nation of inventors, without a rival on the globe. (Loud applause.)

Again, I remark, that we may attribute a portion of our amazing prosperity to the fertility of our soil, the variety of our climate, and our vast mineral resources. We can grow not only everything we can eat, but we can and do manufacture almost everything we need for our comfort and support. Our country, rock-bound and washed by oceans and seas, and watered by innumerable lakes and rivers, with scenery unsurpassed, with a salubrious climate, and an industrious, enterprising population, well skilled in the mechanic arts—such a country can never want for the necessities and luxuries of life. With such advantages as these, labor is bound to be rewarded.

Since 1860, the economic value of our labor has increased seventy per cent. Its increase alone is more than the entire contents of the National Banks of the United States. We have the best fed and best paid labor of any other Nation on the earth. In 1873 the net deposits in the National Banks of the United States were \$673,400.00; in 1896 they were \$2,019,300.00. In 1873 this country exported cotton goods to the value of \$2,947,528.00. In 1896 the exports of cottons, in quantity, had multiplied more than four fold, and their value had increased to \$14,340,886.00. In 1873 the country produced 264,314,148 gallons of crude petroleum, and in 1896 its production had increased to 2,033,331,972 gallons. In 1873 the total production of cane sugar in this country was 610,832,493 pounds, in 1896 it was 934,825,618 pounds. In 1873 our wool product was 158,000,000 pounds; in 1896 it was 298,057,384 pounds. In 1874 we manufactured 2,401,202 tons of pig-iron; in 1896 we made 7,124,502 tons. Our output of coal and lumber is likewise enormous, and we are only in the infancy of what we are yet to be.

The census of 1890 showed that the United States had 4,565,000 farmers, the aggregate value of their farms and equipments summed up fifteen thousand nine hundred and eighty-two millions of dollars. The number of new farms created since 1860 has been 2,520,000, bringing into cultivation 195,000,000 acres of land. The average value of our farm lands has increased from \$29 per acre in 1850 to \$37 per acre in 1890. The average value of dwelling houses in the United States per inhabitant, is \$12.00, while in Great Britain, it is only \$5.50. The average accumulation per head in the United States, is \$41.00, and in Great Britain it is but \$24.00 per capita.

There can be no question, my fellow citizens, that the United States at this time, possesses by far the greatest productive power of any other Nation in the world; that this power has more than trebled since 1860, and that the accumulative wealth of our entire country averages \$7,000,000 a day. These facts tell us of the vastness of our resources, and the fertility of our soil.

I regret, my friends, that time will not allow me to carry these investigations further.

In conclusion, let us to-day, my countrymen, thank the fathers and mothers of the Republic for the success which has



attended the Government they bequeathed to us. Let us thank that patriotic band that gave us freedom from the mother country. Let us thank the soldiers under Lincoln and Grant who preserved our Constitution and our flag. All honor, too, to the noble, patriotic women of the Republic. Napoleon once said that what France needed most was mothers. Thank God we have the noblest mothers in the United States that can be found beneath the stars. And above all, and beyond all, let us not forget the day we celebrate, and never cease to love the land that gave us birth.

Darkness is closing over the land of Solon and Lycurgus. The hills that echoed the eloquence of Pericles are almost unknown to men. The groves in which Socrates and Plato prepared their philosophy have all been razed to the earth. The grand cities, temples and obelisks of antiquity, which were intended to immortalize their builders have nearly all crumbled into dust; but this grand, great, glorious free government of our fathers, grows brighter and stronger with the roll of the years. [Applause.]

Let us, my countrymen, as we here stand beneath the shadow of our beloved "Stripes and Stars", pledge ourselves anew, not like the youthful Hannibal when led to the altar of his country by his father, swearing eternal hatred to his enemies; but let us here swear, by the help of Almighty God, that we will rear to the memories of the heroes of the past, this fabric of State, until its towering monument shall catch the first rays of the rising, and the last rays of the setting sun. [Prolonged Applause].

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## IS THIS A CHRISTIAN NATION?

*Governor Atkinson's Opinion Thereon.*

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(From "M. E. Times," Parkersburg, W. Va., Oct. 2, 1897.)

I answer, yes, and no. It is a Christian Nation in fact, but not in law, except in a qualified sense. Neither in the Article of Compact, the Declaration of Independence, nor the Constitution,

is there a provision or requirement that makes the United States distinctively a Christian government.

The Articles of Confederation, the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution all recognize God, and command all to honor and adore Him as the supreme fatherhood of man, but no where is there a distinctive command to recognize or worship Jesus Christ as the Savior and Redeemer of man. That we are a Christian Nation is everywhere implied, but no where is it commanded or in any sense made mandatory. We are therefore a Christian Nation in fact, but not in law, except in a qualified sense, as I have stated.

The laws of Congress imply Christian Government. They not only recognize God, but teach a belief in Christianity as well; and yet no where is it in any law made compulsory upon any citizen to accept Christianity as the religion of our government. The Supreme Court of the United States, however, has decided that the Christian religion is the foundation stone of our republic, and should be recognized as such.

November 11, 1620, the "May Flower" colonists planted the first seeds of Christian faith on this continent. Their covenant begins in these words: "In the name of God, Amen; \* \* \* \* having undertaken for the glory of God and the advancement of Christian faith \* \* \* \* we do by these presents in the presence of God and one another combine ourselves together into a civil body politic, etc." This may be called our first written Constitution, and upon it was based our Declaration of Independence and our present Constitution.

Under our existing Constitution the utmost liberty is given to every individual citizen, and yet each one must yield so much of his liberty as will give life and efficiency to the nearest and least community of which he is a member. This smaller community joins with others to make a larger; and that a yet larger, until the series ends in a nation which embraces the whole. This is the spirit of our national compact; and this implies the greatest liberty of conscience in everything that embraces religious convictions and the methods of religious worship. It was intended, and is now accepted, that every man may worship God according to the dictates of his conscience, and in his own particular way, and no borough, county, or State can prevent him from so doing. While we are therefore Christians in all that goes to make up a Christian government, there is no

law to prevent a man from being a pagan if he elects to be one.

The first paragraph of the Declaration of Independence recognizes God; and yet the first article of the Constitution provides that Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; and in the sixth article it is provided that no religious tests shall ever be required for office. These are the only provisions in the Federal Constitution upon this subject.

It should be observed, however, that these clauses apply only to laws of the United States. They place no restraint whatever on the action of the States, and make no provision for protecting the citizens of the respective States in their religious liberties, against the laws of the States. The several States, therefore, are at liberty to enact such laws as they may see fit regarding religious matters.

The Constitution of some of the States did not fully respond to this entire freedom of religion. Religious tests, to a certain extent, were maintained in the Constitutions of New Hampshire, Massachusetts, New Jersey, Maryland, Tennessee, Mississippi and North Carolina. In this last State, by the Constitution of 1776, no person denying the divine authority of the Old and New Testaments, or the truth of the Protestant religion, could hold a civil office; but by the Constitution of 1835, the word "Christian" was substituted for the word "Protestant." But in all these, as well as in the other States, in point of practice, the utmost religious freedom may be said to prevail. The practical law of the country may now be stated in the words of the contract of concession, made by William Penn in 1676, with or to the planters of the province of West New Jersey. These words are: "No man on earth has power or authority to rule over man's conscience in religious matters; and no person shall be called in question, or punished or hurt in person, estate, or privilege, for the sake of his opinion, judgment, or worship, in the concernment of religion."

In the ordinances of Congress of 1787, for the government of the territory of the United States northwest of the Ohio river, it was declared to be a fundamental and unalterable principle in the compact between the original States, and the people and States in that territory, that no person demeaning himself in a peaceable and orderly manner, should ever be molested on account of his mode of worship or religious sentiments. And



this may be regarded as, at this day, the practical law of the United States.

Notwithstanding all that I have said, I cannot refrain from believing that this is a Christian Nation. Our people not only believe in God, but they believe also in the divinity of Jesus Christ. Why, then, are we not a Christian country?

For a number of years a movement has been agitated to remedy, by Constitutional amendments, the non-recognition in that instrument of the existence and government of God. Its advocates deny all attempts at a union of Church and State, profess entirely unsectarian principles, and aim at the preservation of those religious elements of our national life—so largely assailed—namely, the Sabbath, Christian marriage, days of fasting and thanksgiving, the Bible in public schools, and Chaplains in Congress and public institutions generally. The arguments in its favor are: 1. That government is a divine institution; 2. Religion is the soul of our unwritten constitution pervading all our institutions, and should therefore have a place in our written code. 3. The United States is not pagan, Mohammedan nor infidel, but a Christian Nation; 4. Neutrality on this point is impossible; and, 5. The present condition of the Nation necessitates an amendment of this kind.

All of these arguments, to my mind, are clear and strong, and worthy the attention of a Christ-loving and Christ-worshipping people.

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## THE NASHVILLE EXPOSITION.

*Address of Governor G. W. Atkinson, at the Nashville Exposition, on West Virginia Day.*

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*October 20, 1897.*

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MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN:—

West Virginia greets her sister State of Tennessee to-day, and congratulates her over this splendid exhibit of her own and other Southern States' resources. In the name of the people of

my State, I thank you for the generous and hospitable reception you have given us on "West Virginia Day." We came down here to greet you and to cheer you on the splendid work you are doing. These staff officers of mine, these commissioners, and these West Virginians, who are standing all about me to-day, are only a fair sample of my people; and I take it that these noble Tennesseans will admit, with their noted Southern frankness and generosity, that in good looks and stately bearing, you cannot easily duplicate them. (Laughter.)

My friends, you have a great State down here in Tennessee. I know considerable about your State, because I have been in almost every county of it. For years I have regarded it as the Empire State of the South. In area, in climate, in location, in beauty of scenery, in healthfulness, in coal, and in timber resources, I doubt if any State in the Union can rival it, except one—West Virginia. In area alone you surpass us. If you only knew it as well as we ourselves know it, you would frankly admit that West Virginia can beat the world in coal and oil and gas and timber. We are the eternal centre of all these commodities. We are not boastful. We only speak the truth. (Applause.)

But, my fellow-countrymen, we are not here to depreciate the great State of Tennessee. On the contrary, we are here to extol her. This Exposition is proof positive that she is both enterprising and great. I doubt if this Exposition has been equalled—certainly not surpassed—by any like undertaking in this country, except by the Columbus Centennial at Chicago, and that was a National and not a State demonstration. In this great Exposition, you have acquitted yourselves with everlasting credit and honors; and all the people who come here will frankly acknowledge it.

The South has always been the most productive portion of the Republic. Its great natural resources—its coal, its iron, its timber, its cotton, its tobacco, its sugar, its rice, and its fruits cannot be equalled in the States of the North. We of the South, for generations, have furnished the larger part of the necessary raw materials for our brethren in the North to manufacture into finished products. This made them rich, while we kept on being poor. These latter years, we have started out to work up our own raw materials upon our own soil, thus giving employment to our own people and keeping our money at home. Under this

common-sense policy, the South is growing rich, and under it she will keep on developing. Tennessee, one of these years—and not in the far distant future, either—will be one of the leading manufacturing States of the Union.

West Virginia, my fellow-citizens, is here to-day to wish Tennessee God-speed in all her undertakings. Tennessee has all, or nearly all, the raw materials that the world needs in its business. All you have to do down here is to go on developing it. Go on, my friends, in your wise policy of working these materials into finished fabrics, and there can be no question as to your future.

But, Mr. Chairman, this is West Virginia day on these magnificent Exposition grounds. We are here to inform you that we have a great State just North and East of you, and that we are opening it up at a mighty rate. We are in the business of doing something ourselves. We aren't by any means lying supinely on our backs up yonder in our West Virginia hills. We are digging coal at a mighty rate. The familiar clicks of the miners' picks are daily heard in many of our mountain sides as they bring forth the dusky diamonds which bring millions of dollars within our borders every year. The hum of our mill-saws lulls our mountaineers to sleep, and awakes them from their slumbers at the dawning of the morn. The derricks in our oil fields are almost as thick as the warts on the heads of your Tennessee frogs. We are pumping oil in sufficient quantities every day out of our West Virginia hills, to grease all the axles on the earth, and have enough left to lubricate the North Pole, and the hinges of every politician's jaw from Maine to California, and our people aren't "Greasers" like those we find in Mexico, either. Moreover, we have most everything else up there, including the best people beneath the stars, Tennesseans alone excepted. (Applause.)

My friends, this Exposition will prove itself to be of inestimable value to Tennessee and to the entire South. These exhibits show a variety and a vastness of resources which hitherto were not generally known to the world at large. For generations you have been producing a very considerable portion of raw cotton for all the Nations. While you have not dropped back any in your production of cotton, you are branching out in other industries which will likewise prove profitable. Nothing develops a State or a Country so rapidly as the diversification



of its industries, I am glad to know that the South is taking a hand in most every sort of business. All hail, Tennessee, and Alabama, and Georgia, and West Virginia, and all the States of the Southland! Hold your eyes steadily to the front; keep abreast of the times as you are now doing, and your greatness and your wealth will some day shine forth like the splendor of the sun. (Loud applause.)

The South, like all other sections of any and all countries, has its ideas and its peculiarities and its idiosyncrasies; but withal, the civilized world can boast of no better, nobler, truer, braver people than the inhabitants of our Southland. Lovers of liberty and freedom in all things, you have never been unmindful of others, and have given your friendly aid to all classes and all sections to better their conditions, and thus make our entire country broader, and nobler, and richer, and grander. You have been an irresistible force, during all the years of our National life, in the development and upbuilding of the Nation, and your impress upon the Republic has been powerful and potent from the days of Washington down to McKinley. The South is a mighty country, and her people are a mighty people. As a Virginian myself, I can greet you as one who loves you, and shares your feelings and your thoughts. I can say in all candor that you are loyal to your country, her Constitution and her flag, and that in your heart of hearts, your influence shall be forever and unfailing for liberty and justice and for peace among men. (Prolonged applause.)

Again I say, West Virginia greets you, and thanks you, and honors you to-day. (Loud cheering.)

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## THANKSGIVING PROCLAMATION.

STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA,  
EXECUTIVE CHAMBER.

Charleston, Oct. 30, 1897.

With an abiding trust in the goodness and mercy of Almighty God and in conformity with an established custom to make public recognition of this acknowledgment, I designate Thursday, the 25th day of November next, to be set apart as a day

of thanksgiving and prayer for the great privileges which we enjoy. I hereby call upon all our people to abstain, as far as possible, from business of every character and kind, on that day, and that they meet in public places of worship in order that prayer and thanksgiving may be offered to Almighty God for the privileges and blessings we now enjoy.

By the Governor,

WM. M. O. DAWSON,

Secretary of State.

G. W. ATKINSON,

Governor.

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## ADDRESS OF WELCOME.

*Governor Atkinson's Address of Welcome to Epworth League Workers.*

*November 17, 1897.*

(From the "Central Methodist," Catlettsburg, Ky., Nov. 27, 1897.)

Several articles already in type are displaced this week, to make room for Governor Atkinson's admirable address of welcome to the Epworth League Conference at Charleston. This paper is historical, exegetical, instructive, and closes with an earnest exhortation, which we hope all Leaguers will heed carefully. Coming from the Governor of a great State, it is a paper to be prized, and the Central Methodist congratulates both itself and its readers on being able to secure so valuable a deliverance for the exclusive use of its readers.

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## ADDRESS OF WELCOME.

[Address of Welcome by Governor G. W. Atkinson, delivered at Dickinson Methodist Episcopal Church, South, November 17, 1897, at Charleston, West Virginia, to the Western Virginia Conference Epworth League Association.]

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN:

It is with more than ordinary pleasure that I welcome you to the city of Charleston, the Capital of your State. I am sure all our people heartily join with me in welcoming such a body of

Christian workers as the Epworth Leaguers of our State. We are more than glad to have you visit us, and I trust your stay in our midst will be both pleasant and profitable to you and to us. I extend to you a warm and hearty welcome to our city and our homes. I assure you also, that our people are in hearty sympathy with the cause that brings you together. Go on, my young friends, in the noble work in which you are engaged. God will abundantly bless you, and the prayers of all good people will be with you.

God moves through the ages by epochs and eras. The last quarter of the century which is now grandly rolling out, has become epochal by the organization of young people's societies for aggressive, Christian activity. In the providence of God, the time was ripe for this tremendous event in Church history.

The growth of young people's societies has been really phenomenal, as witnessed by the following figures: There are about 4,500,000 members of the young people's societies of our evangelical Churches. They are scattered as follows: Christian Endeavor, 2,162,000; Epworth League, Methodist Episcopal Church, 1,500,000; Epworth League, Methodist Episcopal Church, South, to which you belong, 150,000; Baptist Young People's Union, 400,000; Young People's Christian Union of the United Brethren, 75,000; Luther League, 60,000; and some others, as the Brotherhood of Saint Andrew and the Westminster League, whose membership is not so great as those I have given.

Most of these persons are between the ages of fifteen and thirty years. The entire population of the country between those ages is, in round numbers, 18,000,000. That is to say, one-fourth of our population, from fifteen to thirty years of age, belongs to positively aggressive young people's societies of the orthodox Churches, to say nothing of the young Catholics and other young people in the land who live for high and noble purposes. This is independent of similar young people's organizations in the Old World.

The purpose of the Epworth League is "to promote intelligent and loyal piety in the young members and friends of the Church, to aid them in religious development, and to train them in the works of mercy and help. Leagues have been formed in every State and territory in the United States. The Chapters numbered on the eighth anniversary of the organiza-



tion of the League, 17,500 with 5,600 Juniors, making a total membership roll of 1,600,000. By clasping hands, this vast army of organized workers would form an unbroken line from Cleveland to Florida Keys, with enough left out to make a city as large as Cleveland at each end of the line, and two way-station cities each containing about one fourth as many people as are within the limits of West Virginia to-day. Such an organization properly directed will be a mighty factor in reforming the world. When the Crusaders were on their way to Jerusalem to rescue the Sacred Tomb from the Turks, their watch-cry was: "It is the will of God." To-day, as this mighty League throng is marching on, to rescue the world from sin and unrighteousness, their watch-cry is that of the Crusaders: "It is the will of God." [Applause].

And what marvelous headway you are making in this great undertaking! A few years ago, I stood out yonder at the Golden Gate beside the sighing sea. Not knowing the hour, and standing but a few moments, I could not tell whether the tide was coming in or going out. Standing a little while longer, I observed the surging waves coming rolling in, until they would strike the beach, break asunder, and recede again, foaming, seething, white-capped, back to their home in the mighty deep. Standing a little while longer, I found that each successive wave, which struck the beach, climbed higher and still higher upon the sands along the shore. Then I knew that the tide of the mighty, great, grand, majestic, broad, blue Pacific Ocean was coming in and was not going out. So, standing here to-day upon this vantage ground of truth, and looking out over our great country, the freest and the best beneath the stars, I say with emphasis, and with a faith that cannot be shaken, that the great tide of public sentiment, with reference to the ultimate regeneration of the world, is coming in, and is not going out; and in this great consummation the Epworth League is taking a mighty part. (Applause.)

My fellow citizens, I am sorry to say there are those who censoriously condemn these auxiliary Church organizations; who claim that they are harmful instead of helpful to the Church. In such conclusion they are wrong,—forever wrong. Old people can be conservative, but young people must be enthusiastic; and if they are disposed to ally themselves together in independent Church work, they ought to be allowed to do it, and should

be encouraged rather than hindered in their laudable undertakings.

These multitudes of young people are not designing to thrust the venerable or middle aged classes aside from the places they have so long occupied in the work of the Church, but to re-enforce them in every good word and work. They are to carry the counsels of that wisdom which is begotten of experience into practice, "Old men for counsel, young men for war." We have had counsels and councils, and must continue to have them, but the war is now on, and is going to remain on, and these young men and women are in the battle's brunt. The Church, through its councils, has already reached its conclusions with reference to the Christ and the gospel that He founded. The young people of His army are now ready to stop debating the question as to who Christ is, and as to what the Bible is, and as to what the gospel is, and proceed to press their claims for the undivided allegiance of all the people. This, my friends, is the beginning of the Church's home-stretch for the millennium. (Cheers.)

The methods of these young people's societies are manifold. I will briefly note a few:

1. They propose to produce a generation of Church members who, instead of having one out ten that is actively religious, as is the case now, all shall be thorough, consecrated, and efficient workers for the Master, and anointed with Pentecostal power. This is the work of the Devotional Department.

2. They propose to become the world's leaders of thought. While others give themselves up to frivolous amusements, they devote their leisure to the mastery of courses of study, to literary culture, and practice in the art of putting things. They listen to lectures, debate great questions, think great thoughts, act noble parts, and in life's great drama, they play the role of "being somebody." Such young men and women are not to be ciphers, but digits—every one standing for something, if standing alone. (Applause.)

3. They propose also to follow the great Head of the Church in His plan of reaching the multitudes by helping them. The success of the Christ in reaching the masses, unquestionably lay in His Divinely unselfish sincerity. LaCordaire, the great French preacher, says: "Love is the immolation of self upon the altar of its object. Whosoever has not thus been immola-

ted, has never loved." Convince people that you love them, and you can lead them. Convince people that you can and do sympathize with them in all of their besetments in life, and you can draw them to you and lift them to higher heights of intelligence, usefulness, morals and religion. Sympathy gave Shakespeare his marvelous power over men. Sympathy and love are the unseen powers that will ultimately regenerate the world. (Cheers.)

My friends, my countrymen, I tell you to-day, the young people of Methodism are going to give the Christ's sympathy and love to the world anew by reincarnating the Spirit of Christ, so that their hands will be used for Him to show His love, as of old, by self-sacrifice and sympathetic devotion. Likewise their feet, their voices, their time, their money, their prayers and their tears. Prayers and tears are mightily reinforced when they follow manifestly honest self-sacrifices. This, my friends, is the work of the Mercy and Help Department of your League.

4. Notwithstanding the seriousness of their high calling, they, nevertheless, are going to reform society, so called, by showing the world that supreme enjoyment, that the most intense realization of what the world is so ardently and at such great expense of time and money, but so fruitlessly seeking in dangerous and demoralizing pastimes, can only be experienced by the pure in heart. (Loud applause.)

They will show the world how to have a "good time" without compromise of character and morals. Nay, they will prove to the world that they only laugh well whose merry hearts have in them no foundation-stones for a temple of remorse. They will have their amusements. Their pleasures will be so manifest that it will become the fad to be righteous for the sake of the satisfaction of righteousness. Then "good society" will be the society of the good. (Applause.) It is the mission of the Department of Entertainment to bring all this about, and in the fullness of time it will come.

There can be no question as to who is to win in this society race. At any time we can safely put the intelligence and character of these Christian young people, who lead clean lives and improve themselves mentally and morally, against the reckless and dissipating crowds that aim at nothing but nonsense and hit nothing but filth. (Loud cheering.)

5. They will use printer's ink, personal correspondence, and



in every possible way compel the masses to think about Christ and the tremendous verities of immortality. This is the work of the Department of Correspondence.

6. Then they are to introduce the rein of the systematic giver. The next generation of Methodists are going to consecrate faithfully, and I believe hilariously, one-tenth of their income to the work of the Church. How the churches will flourish then! The missionary treasury and all other treasuries will be full, and the Gospel of the Christ will be preached in all lands. (Applause).

The century that is dawning will bring greater blessings, as well as greater responsibilities, to all mankind. Gibbon in his peerless history of the Roman Empire tells us that the reign of Marcus Aurelius in the second century was the golden age of the world. The golden age, my friends, is the time that is coming, and I trust not far distant, when men shall love, instead of hate, and when all classes shall worship God and love their neighbors as themselves; when all shall stand by their consciences, their ministers, their churches; when all shall board the old ship Zion, as she plows the seas, bearing upon her prowess the noble and glorious message to all the men and women of all the earth: "Glory to God in the highest, on earth peace and good-will to men." (Loud cheers:)

Yes, my friends, the young people of this land are going to be good citizens. They propose to prepare themselves for taking a controlling part in politics. By combining to form a balance of power, they can dictate the course of events requiring the office to seek the man; securing needed reforms, and relegating corrupt tricksters and scheming manipulators to the limbo of musty history where such classes of right ought to be entombed out of sight forever. (Cheers.)

The great need of our country to-day, my fellow citizens, is unselfish patriotism—a kind that will create a rival in the direction I have indicated, by being on hand at the primaries, and then do its shouting at the ballot-box. The great gatherings of Epworth Leaguers like the International Meeting at Toronto last July of all the Epworth Leagues of the Continent; the Christian Endeavorers at San Francisco which met but a week or two before, and other like organizations, will ultimately result in the federation of Christendom for tremendous results not only upon individuals, but upon society and the Nation.

My young friends, if it were in place for me to do so at this time, I would exhort you most earnestly upon three particular propositions, viz:

1. To urge all of you to be sincerely religious.
2. I would urge all of you to be intelligent Methodists, and
3. I would insist upon you to work together for great results.

But as my time is limited, I simply throw them to you as suggestions. I repeat, my brethren, that you are engaged in a great work. Let nothing deter you from doing your whole duty.

Oh! who would not a champion be  
 In this the lordlier chivalry?  
 Uprouse ye now, brave brother band,  
 With honest heart and working hand.  
 You are but few, toil-tried but true,  
 And hearts beat high to dare and do;  
 Oh! there be those who ache to see  
 The day-dawn of your victory.  
 Work brother, work with hand and brain!  
 You'll win the golden age again;  
 And love's millennial morn shall rise  
 In happy hearts and blessed eyes.  
 We will, we will brave champions be  
 In this, the lordlier chivalry.

Again I welcome you to Charleston on behalf of this Church, and our people as a whole. (Prolonged applause.)

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## PANEGYRIC

*By Governor G. W. Atkinson, at the Grave of the Hon. O. S. Long, (A Distinguished Freemason),*

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*Dec. 19, 1897.*

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MY FRIENDS AND BROTHERS:

"And I sit and think when the sunset's gold  
 Is flushing river and hill and shore,  
 I shall one day stand by the water cold,  
 And list for the sound of the boatman's oar;

I shall watch for a gleam of the flapping sail,  
I shall hear the boat as it gains the strand,  
I shall pass from sight with the boatman pale,  
To the better shore of the spirit land,  
I shall know the loved who have gone before,  
And joyfully sweet will the meeting be,  
When over the river, the peaceful river,  
The Angel of Death shall carry me."

Most Worshipful Brother O. S. Long is no more. As a lightning stroke from out a cloudless sky, death's herald came. His lamp, which flickered but a few days, went peacefully out, only a day or so before the bells tolled the death of the old and the birth of the new year, 1898. His illness was of short duration, and before but few of his friends knew that he was even indisposed, he was dead.

M. W. Brother Long was in no respect an ordinary man. He was classically educated; was thoroughgoing in all of his undertakings; was honorable, upright, manly, and was as gentle as a woman. It was the fortune of but few to know the simplicity, beauty and tenderness of his private life, and those thus fortunate were the better of that knowledge. The conqueror of the high principled Brutus perfectly described our deceased brother, when he said: "His life was gentle, and the elements so mixed in him that all the world might say, this was a man."

M. W. Brother Long was born in Westmoreland county, Pennsylvania, October 16, 1836, and was therefore in his sixty-second year. He was the second son of Rev. Warner Long, for more than half a century an active and prominent member of the Pittsburgh Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and was himself a member of that communion in earlier life, but subsequently connected himself with the Episcopal Church, and died in its communion as a Vestryman. Brother Long was educated at Allegheny College, Meadville, Pa., then, as now, a well known educational institution. He graduated high up in the class of 1856. He then became a school teacher, following that calling for several years. In the meantime, he studied law at Beaver, Pa., and was admitted to the bar in 1862, but never practiced, inclination calling him into editorial work on newspapers.

In February, 1864, Brother Long moved to Wheeling, West Virginia, and became editor of the Register, which had just been started by Lewis Baker. His work on that paper was marked by ability, brilliancy and thoroughness. In 1866 he was ap-



pointed postmaster of Wheeling by President Johnson, and served six months, relinquishing the office because the Republican Senate refused to confirm the appointment. In 1867 Brother Long engaged in life insurance in Wheeling; and in 1870 resumed editorial charge of the Register. He remained on the paper until 1874, when he was appointed Clerk of the West Virginia Supreme Court of Appeals, a position he held and ably filled to the time of his death.

Brother Long was widely known and esteemed by many in West Virginia and throughout the country, through his connection with Freemasonry, having held the highest and most important offices in each of the Grand Bodies in West Virginia. He was for fourteen years Secretary of the Grand Lodge, and he compiled the text-book which has for more than ten years been in use in the Masonic Lodges of the State. Later he compiled a manual of Masonic law for the government of the Fraternity in West Virginia. He was also an active member of the Supreme Council for the Southern Jurisdiction of the United States of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite.

Brother Long was made a Mason in Cumberland Lodge No. 134, at Cumberland, Ohio, in 1857; was exalted a Royal Arch Mason at Cambridge, Ohio, in June, 1858; was made a Royal and Select Master at Brownsville, Pennsylvania, in 1859; was created a Knight Templar in Wheeling Commandery No. 1, at Wheeling, West Virginia, in 1865; was made a Master of the Royal Secret (32d degree) A. and A. S. R. at Lynchburg, Virginia, in 1868; was coronated Honorable Inspector General of the Supreme Council of the Southern Jurisdiction of the United States, at Washington, D. C., May 30, 1876, and on the same day was crowned an active member of that body, and served, until the time of his death, as an Inspector General for West Virginia; was elected Lieutenant Grand Commander of that body October 21, 1895, and at his death, had served as an active member thereof, faithfully and efficiently for 21 years, 6 months, and 26 days. As stated above, he filled ably and well all of the offices of Grand Master, Grand Secretary, Grand High Priest of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter, Grand Secretary of the same, and Eminent Grand Commander of Knights Templar of the State. I doubt if any Mason in all the land can show a more complete record. It is needless for me to say that Brother Long filled practically all of the offices in his subordinate Lodges.

M. W. Brother Long was easily the first in attainments of all the brethren of our jurisdiction. He was a student of Freemasonry, and knew more of its symbolic teachings than most of the learned leaders of the Fraternity throughout the world. He was not a Ritualist, but he was a Masonic Jurist of wonderful attainments. He was learned in our laws and our history, and as such, like Boaz of old, was a pillar of strength in our midst. When one of his attainments passes from the throng of the living, he is entitled to something more than a mere handful of earth, which it was believed when cast upon the lifeless form of an ancient Roman, gave the wandering spirit the power to successfully cross the gloomy river to the brighter fields beyond.

The ancient Greeks, whose religion was so deeply imbued with the poetic sentiment that their immortal epic may be viewed, not only as a poem, but as a theology, accompanied their pictures of death with two symbols of very different import. The butterfly and the inverted torch, which were adopted as significant accompaniments of that god who was called the fatherless child of Night—and the twin brother of Sleep—convey to the mind apparently conflicting lessons.

The inverted torch, as a symbol of death, reminds us of hopes that have been blighted, of plans left incomplete, of aspirations that have been extinguished, of labors suddenly abandoned, of joys that have ceased to warm, and griefs that no longer chill the heart. But the butterfly, springing out of the sluggish and insensible chrysalis into a form of beauty and ceaseless activity, bids us look with certain hope to that change of existence when the mortal shall become immortal, when what is corruptible shall be changed into incorruption, and when other fields of thought and action shall be presented to the new born and thenceforth eternal energies of the soul.

The Freemasons, who have borrowed their religious dogmas from a later dispensation, can still adopt these ancient symbols and give to them a consoling interpretation. We know that the temple of this life is a building, fragile in structure, temporary in duration. Its foundations have been laid in sand, and storms will overthrow it, and floods carry it away. But we know, too, that other temple which is the true object of a Mason's labor, that sanctuary of the pure heart, that holy house of the soul, is a mansion which knows no decay, but is as eternal as the stars.

We are taught in our rituals, that it is through the gate of death that we are to find an entrance to that place of wages, refreshment and rest. For the Supreme Master of the Universe, before whom we all bow in adoration, and whose all-seeing eye marked our labors in the Lodge below, promises to spread before us in the stupendous Lodge above, all the joys and glories of an eternal Sabbath morn.

While we could not and would not borrow the stoicism of the Scythians, and rejoice and be cheerful and happy standing around the silent bier of our deceased brother, we should feel that death is the twin brother of sleep, and from that sleep of death there is an awakening to eternal life, and that what is our loss is his great and everlasting gain.

That stern postmortem tribunal, held in the ancient Egyptian "Court of Death," before whom the remains of the deceased were brought, who were made to abide the sentence that should be passed upon their lives, from which there was no appeal; whether, in accordance with that verdict, they were to be embalmed with costly myrrhs and laid to rest with imposing ceremonies, in magnificent tombs, or 'cast forth from tomb and temple to lie naked and dishonored on the sands until the earth consumed their remains," or, borne by the turbid waters of the Nile, to the depths of the deep-sounding sea, there to be consumed. The witnesses in this stern court knew that, should they unjustly denounce the dead, they were purjured beyond the power of redemption of Isis or Osiris. "They spoke no lies to the dead, nor of the dead to the living."

In preparing this eulogy we should speak as a witness before that awful tribunal, and having known our brother for a generation would dare affirm, that, had he been subjected to such an ordeal, his sarcophagus of finished design, sculptured by skilled workmen, with the beautiful symbol of the Craft he loved so well, its symbol of death, surmounted by that of immortality, would have been his meet and willing award, his form and figure would have been embalmed with that "mysterious love which is at once concealed and preserved in imperishable characters among the winged symbols upon the stones of Thebes and Karne; and, his cartouche would be covered within the crypts and secret recesses of many a Masonic Temple, as evidence of his work and worth."

These tokens of respect are empty, but they are all that we



can offer to the living whom our brother dearest loved. Our dead brother was a manly man. He had courage, and as a Mason, true and tried, he worshipped at the shrine of truth. He was true to God, to friends and loved ones; and no one can say that he ever raised hand or voice against anyone whose purpose was to do right, to be honest and be just. He was modest even to a fault, and never sought to raise himself by pulling others down. His noble spirit was molded out of the religion he professed, and he grew bigger himself by lifting others up. His life was the antipodes of arrogance. He found no fault with those who differed from him in religion, or on politics, or on matters pertaining to the welfare of the Craft. Conservative in his make up, he stood as a wall of partition between extremists, and poured oil upon the waters when they were disturbed by those whose dispositions are opposed to peace. A Mason for a generation, he lived to see the sun of Fraternity rise, gild the hills of every land with its rays of peace, and thrust its glories into the darkened corners of the globe, teaching to one and all the doctrine immortal of the fatherhood of God and the brotherhood of man.

The heart of every West Virginia Mason throbbed with sorrow when the word went forth that Brother Long was dead. He was a shining mark for the relentless reaper's shaft. He was the type of man that makes the world better, and he was the mold of man for whom the people mourn when death claimed him for his own. Faults he had, but his virtues overshadowed them to an extent that they were but a few thorns forever concealed beneath a wilderness of flowers. Better than most men he pursued the path of duty, and the trail he blazed, most men can safely and successfully follow. His was an unselfish life, imbued with true Masonic spirit. Calm and undemonstrative in demeanor, his heart beat warm for suffering humanity, and he was ever ready to do all he could to help a brother with advice, through the exercise of his far-reaching influence, or with his money as well. But he made no stir about it.

To his enemies, if he had any, he showed knightly courtesy and magnanimity. He had too much good sense to be affronted at insults, and was too well employed to remember injuries. He was patient and philosophical in suffering, submitting to death with Christian fortitude. Peace to his ashes. Rest to his soul.

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In the City of Sleep on the hill  
Falls the sunbeams, the shadows and showers,  
Comes never a vision of ill,  
And the years glide away like the hours;  
For the sleeper recks not of the strife,  
The sorrows and heartaches that fill  
To o'erflowing the goblet of life,  
In the City of Sleep on the hill.

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## BUSINESS PROGRESS,

*Prospects and Resources of West Virginia, By Hon. G. W. Atkinson, D. C. L., Governor of West Virginia.*

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*January 1st, 1898.*

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(From the Age of Steel.)

As per your request, I furnish your readers with a brief article on the "Business Prospects and Resources of West Virginia."

I can assure you that our business outlook is encouraging. Merchants all over the State inform me that their sales are rapidly increasing, and collections are much easier than for two or three years past. Railroad traffic has of late greatly increased within our borders. Our coal operators tell me that they could sell double the amount of coal they are now mining, if the railroads could haul it to market. Our iron, steel, pottery, glass and fire clay industries are doing a fairly good business, and their output has largely increased during the past three or four months. Lumber and cattle command a much better price than formerly, and the demand is increasing every week. All this is gratifying to our people generally, and is doing much to restore confidence, and establish courage for the future.

While we have in West Virginia several good sized steel plants, glasshouses, potteries and tile and fire brick works, yet our main industries are coal, oil, gas and timber.

West Virginia embraces in the neighborhood of 17,000 square

miles of the great Appalachian coal field of the continent. We have, we think, an inexhaustible supply of steam, coking, gas, splint and cannel coals. The aggregate of the various seams of these bituminous coals is eighty-nine feet above the water level, to say nothing of the veins beneath water level, that some day will be reached by shafts. When we consider the fact that the coal and coke development in West Virginia does not yet cover a score of years, we think we have made marvelous progress. Please bear in mind that we are now the third coal and the second coke producing State in the Union; and these industries are yet practically in their infancy with us. Several large tracts of lands have recently been purchased by capitalists from other States, and inside another twelve months, a score or more of new coal mines will be in operation. It is a fact worthy of note, that a majority of our coal operators are men who have, for years, been engaged in the coal business in Pennsylvania, the largest coal producing State in the Union. They have two good reasons for coming to West Virginia, viz: our coals can be mined cheaper, and the water transportation to the South and West is far more reliable, and at the same time the distance is not so great as from the Pennsylvania field. An experienced coal operator can fully appreciate these two important factors in carrying forward an extensive business.

Our coal output has increased from 8,000,000 tons in 1893 to 13,500,000 tons the present year. Our coke production has grown even more rapidly. The output this year will not fall far below 1,600,000 tons. The large coal and coke operations in West Virginia are confined to fewer than a dozen of the fifty-five counties in the State. The leading county is Fayette, on the Great Kanawha and New Rivers; the second is McDowell, in the Pocahontas coal basin, and the third is Marion, on the Monongahela river. The other eight or ten counties fall considerably below those named; but they are making steady progress in their outputs. Inside of five years, mines will be in operation in as many more counties, which have the same seams of coal now used in the counties which have already been developed. It will not be long before we will leave Illinois behind us, and ten years, if I am not greatly mistaken—and I think I am not—will place us alongside of the old "Keystone State" in the production of both coal and coke.

Our next great industry is carbon oil. It is believed by



oil experts that West Virginia is underlaid with a sea of petroleum. The total output of oil in the State for the calendar year of 1897, will be over 18,000,000 barrels of white sand oil. This does not take into account the black, or limestone lubricating oil, of which we produce a large amount each year.

We have eight oil producing sands in our State, viz: Dunkard, Cow Run, Big Injun, Salt, Gantz, Gordon, Fifth and Sixth Sands. These sands vary in thickness from 30 to 200 feet and are found at a depth of from 300 to 3300 feet. The Big Injun and Gordon sands produce most of the oil.

The daily production of oil from these eight several sands is about 50,000 barrels. The daily production of petroleum from white sands in the United States is about 120,000 barrels. Therefore, it may be seen that West Virginia is producing nearly one-half of the best quality and highest-priced carbon oils, and from which is produced better kerosene and more of its by-products than any other grades of oils in the world.

Eight counties in West Virginia are furnishing about nine-tenths of the oil produced in West Virginia. These counties are: Monongalia, Marion, Wetzel, Tyler, Doddridge, Harrison, Wood and Ritchie. The balance of this product comes from Wirt, Lewis, Calhoun and Roane Counties. These last named counties are being rapidly developed, and will, no doubt, very soon be producing as much oil as the counties that have already been fully tested.

The oil belt in West Virginia begins at the southeast corner of Greene County, Pa., touching the northwest portion of Monongalia County, West Virginia, and extending across the entire State of West Virginia, and terminating in the eastern portion of Kentucky. All of this southern portion of what we believe to be an unmistakable and unerring oil belt has not been fully developed, and is therefore unknown.

Since 1890, up to the present time, there has been a continuous drilling of oil wells in our State, of from 75 to 150 every day. As soon as one well is completed, another begins, and work goes on, night and day. The new wells, as a matter of course, in new production are in excess of the decline of the wells already in operation. That is to say, as the old wells decline, the new wells more than make up the decline, and thus add to the continuous production.

The number of wells completed, which have been paying producers, and are still producing, run up into the thousands. The average life of these wells has not yet been determined; but as the oil-bearing sands in the State are unusually porous, it may be possible for each producing well to drain a large area of territory, and time alone can determine the possible life of these wells.

The Standard Oil Company has invested millions of dollars in our State in the construction of pipe lines, storage tanks and other facilities necessary to take care of this wonderful production. The fact that the Standard Oil Company, which controls the production and price of the petroleum oil output of the world, is proof that West Virginia is the oil center of the earth, or they would not give us the attention they are now doing.

West Virginia is now producing more high grade petroleum than any other State in the Union; and will, in the future, necessarily increase, instead of decrease her production of this necessary article that all the world needs and must have for the wants and comforts of mankind.

I have not thus far alluded to gas. West Virginia is now producing practically all the gas used by Pittsburg and all the manufacturing sections bordering on our State. Gas is already established as an economic and desirable fuel, and it has come to stay. West Virginia is the eternal center of this cheap and desirable fuel, and our Pennsylvania neighbors have come across "the line," and are using that which a beneficent Providence gave to us, and refused so lavishly to give to them.

It is estimated that we have in this State 9,000,000 acres of original forests. There are, in some of the interior counties, immense primeval forests that are strangers to the woodsman's ax, or the saw of the lumberman. It is not uncommon to see poplars from three to eight feet in diameter and sixty feet to the first limb. Oaks are not so large, but many of them measure five feet across the stump. Walnut trees are often found three and four feet in diameter. The timber is larger and of better quality in the river and larger creek valleys than along the slopes and elevated plateaus. We have in our State every variety of timber indigenous to this latitude. Lumber camps follow the railroads, and as new lines of roads are projected, the lumber industry of the State proportionally increases. It is vast now in its proportions, but it is only in the dawn of what it is yet to be.

## SPEECH

*of Governor G. W. Atkinson, of West Virginia, at the Session  
of the South and West Congress, at Tampa, Florida.*

*February 9, 1898.*

MR. PRESIDENT, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN:—

I was informed last fall at Nashville, during that successful Exposition of Southern wealth and Southern enterprise, that more than two million additional spindles had been started in the South during the preceding twelve months. This, to me, was extremely gratifying information. I am glad that the people of our Southland have, in dead earnest, gone into the business of *twisting* something. A people that *twist* are a people that thrive. A man must twist everything he can get his hands on, in order to rise above the average of his fellow man; and this is true of a community as well. We of the South are behind our Northern neighbors mainly because, for generations, "we toiled not, neither did we spin." All hail, my brethren! We have thrown off that lethargy and are on the high-tide of industrial, physical and intellectual development. In the active business shuffle of to-day, we are taking a mighty hand. The spirit of true enterprise has fully come upon us, and I am firmly persuaded that it has come to stay. (Applause.)

It can not be successfully controverted, Mr. Chairman, that we have within the Southern States the necessary elements to cause several, if not all of them, to become manufacturing centres. We have natural advantages unequaled, and certainly not surpassed, by any other portion of the great Republic; and I am delighted over the fact that our own people are now engaged in the laudable undertaking of working up our own raw materials into finished products, upon our own soil by our own skilled labor. This, my countrymen, is an unerring road to success. Thanks to ourselves, we are succeeding now. Indeed, we have already succeeded, and we are only in the dawn of what we are yet to be.

With harbors unsurpassed, ships should be loading every hour



in these ports, carrying our products across the high seas to other lands less favored than our own. With our practically inexhaustible forests of timber, we can furnish boards enough to fence in the Universe and have a supply left sufficient to lay a board walk to the snow-bound regions of the Klondyke. With our coals in most of these States, we can heat the earth hotter than the Hebrew "fiery furnace" of Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego, and have surplus enough to furnish steam for all the ships on all the seas. With our natural gas we can, if it were concentrated, make Pluto ashamed of his boasted dominion, and cause him to flee to the far-famed mountains of West Virginia in search of the cool, balmy breezes which alone can be found in that charming Switzerland of America. With our crude petroleum we can, if we want, grease every axle and cog and wheel and pinion in this and all lands, and at the same time oil the hinges of every stump-orator's jaw from Florida Keys to the North Pole, and have enough left over, when properly refined to light up all the dark places of *terra firma* like a spectacular aurora borealis. With our cotton and our tobacco and our rice and our sugar and our semi-tropical fruits, what may we not expect, when every strong, broad-shouldered Southern man has his back against the wagon and is pushing all he can? (Loud applause.)

But, Mr. Chairman, what of the West? And I am glad that that once great wilderness, which is now blossoming as the rose, is strongly represented here to-day. The possibilities of that wonderful stretch of our National domain can scarcely be estimated. Two or three of those massive prairie States alone can produce a sufficiency of wheat and corn every year to feed the American people, independently of that vast proportion of these products which passes through the worms of distilleries and down the throats of the multitudes of the "fire-water" suckers of the land. What we need, for a large part of our Western products, is a foreign market; and what better points for loading it on sailing vessels and ocean steamers can be found than these along the Gulf coast? The West, like the old valley of the Nile to the ancients, is the granary of the Continent, and why should these products be shipped East and North instead of Southward? We are here to-day to bid for a portion of the shipping of the Western and Middle States, and for the big end of all the products of every State south of the

Ohio. When we look upon these magnificent harbors, extending from Norfolk and Newport News down the Atlantic coast, and all along the Gulf of Mexico, we wonder that we have not hitherto secured practically all of the shipping of the South and the West. It is enough for us to know, however, that thus far we have only received but a small portion of this traffic, and we are here to-day, in this "Business Congress," to find out why it is, and to ascertain if it is not possible to get on the right track for the future. It seems to me, my friends, that our trade with Central and South America should, in the near future, be very much greater than it now is; and all this traffic must of necessity pass through the ports along the Gulf. The Ohio and Mississippi rivers furnish a cheap water-way for heavy freights to the sea, and across this Gulf should be passing to-day the surplus cereals from the Central and Western States. (Applause.)

I find, Mr. President, that New York and New England conduct about eight-tenths of our export trade, and the major part of the articles they are shipping—these articles of commerce are from the West and the South. We are, consequently, furnishing our neighbors of that portion of the Republic a large part of the capital upon which they carry on their business. We are, therefore, the hewers of wood and the drawers of water and they alone get the increase. I cannot understand, my fellow citizens, why the rural products which roll into St. Louis and Cincinnati and Omaha and Chicago, as the trading points for the vast farming sections that surround them, go to New York and New England for foreign shipment, instead of down the Ohio and Mississippi rivers to the Gulf, or by rail across the mountains to tide-water on the East. The only explanation I can think of, is the answer given by the young son of a butcher who had just entered school. When asked by his teacher how much ten pounds of beef would come to at six cents per pound, his reply was instantaneous: "It won't come to nuthen, because you can't git no such article at no such price." (Laughter.) They cannot afford to do it, and yet they are doing this very thing.

The laps of the South and the West lie together exactly as the laps of the North and the East are one. It is bad judgment and bad business sense for us to empty our laps into theirs, unless they empty something into ours in return. The North and

the East depend mainly upon manufacturing and shipping, while the West and the South furnish the bulk of the raw materials with which they are kept constantly employed. We have pursued this policy already too long for our own prosperity and success. Common sense teaches the folly of such conduct. Nature intended manufacturing to be done where the raw materials are located. The people are often slow in taking hold of what Nature intended them to do; but sooner or later "they catch on," and then wonder at the folly of their neglect. I say boldly in this presence to-day, my countrymen, God Almighty intended the South and West to be the manufacturing workshop of this, the greatest Nation beneath the stars; and sooner or later furnaces and factories will be a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night, and the roll of machinery will gladden the sections that are strangers to them now. (Loud applause.)

American history has been a lesson as well as an inspiration to me. New England made the New South possible, just as Egypt, Assyria, Babylon and Persia made Greece and Rome possible. The North and the East have the lakes, the grit and the money; the two extremes of the Nation each has an ocean; and the Middle and the Southern States have the great rivers which flow southward to the Gulf of Mexico. The Mississippi basin is the heart of the Continent and the granary of the Nation, and it will some day be the most populous portion of the Republic; and its shipping will be all, or measurably all, across this great Gulf.

The wealth of our country, Mr. Chairman, is already becoming colossal; but as it has only been the reward of industry and enterprise, it cannot demoralize its possessors. The field of gain is so vast and varied that the mass of our common citizens have shared its abundance. Our prosperity is not accidental. It is not merely a phase of the remarkable development of a remarkable age. On the contrary, it is simply the outgrowth of the enterprise, genius and pluck of our people. The Yankee is a "snapper," and he rarely, if ever, fails "to get in his work." We of the South move slower, but we move with steady step. The people of the North have conferred unnumbered benefits upon the Nation, as well as received them. They have strongly influenced American development as well as were themselves influenced by it. This was not done by begetting an-



tagonisms, but by laying a broader base for the Nation they were attempting to build up. They liberalized the whole country by their broad, progressive ideas, tendencies and sympathies. The one, therefore, who is abusive of the people of the North, is narrow, bigoted, prejudiced. I trust that I am broad enough to be just to the people of all sections. My fellow citizens, I declare to you to-day, that I am neither for Paul nor Appollos nor for Cephas, but I am for my country, now and for ever, one and inseperable. (Prolonged applause.)

The latest statistics in the Department of Agriculture, furnished to me by the Secretary of that bureau, under date of the second of the present month, show the annual production, in the Republic, of two billion bushels of corn, five hundred and thirty million bushels of wheat, over seven hundered million bushels of oats, seventy million bushels of barley, twenty-five million bushels of rye, fifteen million bushels of buckwheat, one hundred and seventy-five million pounds of rice, eight hundred million pounds of sugar, two hundred and seventy-five million pounds of wool, upwards of four hundred million pounds of tobacco, about eight and a half million bales of cotton, fifteen million horses, three million mules, forty million cattle, forty-three million hogs, forty million sheep, sixty million tons of hay, and over seven million dollars worth of oranges; and who will undertake to say that the bulk of these vast products does not come from the Western, the Southern and the Middle States? Lop off Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana and Illinois, and you will find the coal bed of thet Continent buried beneath Southern soil. In the two Virginias, Kentucky, Tennessee, Maryland and Alabama, the coal acreage is greatly in excess of the four Middle coal States which I have mentioned. They are nearer to a large part of the West and all of the South-west than the coal fields of the Middle or Central States, and are nearer to tide-water on the East and South also. When the Nicaragua Canal is completed, we can sweep the Pacific coast, because all heavy freights must come Southward over the great waterways of the Continent. These ports will be busy then. The iron centre of the Union will ultimately be within the Southern States. We have, in many places, coal and iron and limestone in the same hill-sides. When competition screws the prices down so that the margins of manufacture will be counted by cents instead of by dimes and dollars, the struggle will be on. It will

then be "the survival of the fittest"; and I have studied political economy in vain, if those sections do not "win out" where the raw materials abound.

My friends, please do not misunderstand me. Nothing succeeds without great effort. The South and the West must avail themselves of every opportunity. The upward trend of business, as in the life of every individual, is full of struggle and endeavor. Men frequently fall of their own weight. So do great business adventures. When men cease to struggle, they invariably go down. This is the reason why the bottom in the learned professions is always crowded, and why there is invariably room at the top. The men at the top are covered over with scars, because they have fought their way there, and they necessarily bear the marks of their honorable and long continued conquest. This has been true of all individuals from Adam down to McKinley, and it is true of communities and Nations as well.

"Let the road be rough and dreary,  
And its end far out of sight,  
Foot it bravely, strong or weary,  
Trust in God and do the right."

Pardon me, Mr. President, ladies and gentlemen, in conclusion, for a special word for my own native State of West Virginia. We think we have the richest and the best located State in the Union. Our eastern border is within fifty miles of the National Capital. We are eighteen hours from New York and St. Louis and Chicago, twelve hours from Cleveland, Columbus, Cincinnati, Baltimore, Pittsburg and Richmond. We have a salubrious climate, charming scenery, low-taxes, cheap, fertile lands, good schools, well executed laws, and a happy, contented population. We have more coal, oil, gas and timber than any other State. We produced fourteen million tons of coal, one million six hundred thousand tons of coke, nineteen million barrels of carbon oil, and gas enough to blow up the Gulf of Mexico—all in the year of our Lord 1897. I extend to all of these delegates, and to all of the good people of this Ponce de Leon "land of flowers," a cordial invitation to come to West Virginia, cast your lots with us, and we will guarantee to all of you health, happiness, peace and prosperity. I thank you for your attention. (Prolonged applause.)

## LYNCHINGS IN WEST VIRGINIA.

*Governor Atkinson's Reply to the Attorney General relative to  
the Lynching of a Colored man in Mercer County,  
Feb'y 3, 1898, by a Mob of White Men.*

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Charleston, March 7, 1898.

HON. EDGAR P. RUCKER,  
Attorney General.

Dear Sir:—I own receipt of your letter of this day, and beg to say in reply that I fully concur with your views relative to lynchings and to discriminations on account of race or color in prosecutions for crime. Nothing is so ruinous to the reputation of a State as lynchings. There is no need of them. They are wrong in principle, and should not be tolerated. I promise you my earnest efforts to aid you in prosecuting the men who recently took the law into their own hands at Bramwell. They should be vigorously prosecuted and severely punished. I commend your zeal in seeing that our law against crimes of this character is vigorously enforced. If you desire it, I will offer a reward for the apprehension and conviction of the lynchers.

The murder of a colored woman by one Truman, a white man, is appalling. If the facts are as represented—and I cannot doubt their correctness—no pains should be spared by the county and State authorities to bring him to a speedy trial. It amazes me to learn that a brutal murder, such as you detail to me, should take place in one of the counties of our State, and yet no effort be made to arrest the murderer. If you desire it, I will also offer a reward for the arrest and conviction of Truman. West Virginia is a free country and is inhabited by free people. If a white man kills a negro, he should be prosecuted. In the enforcement of the laws of the State, I shall recognize neither condition nor race.

Your most obedient servant,

G. W. ATKINSON,  
Governor of West Virginia.



## “WEST VIRGINIA.”

*A Toast by Governor George W. Atkinson, Delivered at the  
Stonewall Jackson Camp Banquet—Another Splendid  
Tribute to the Resources of the Mountain State.  
The Governor Becomes Humorous.*

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*March 14, 1898.*

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(From Charleston Daily Gazette.)

The following address was delivered Saturday night by Governor George W. Atkinson, at the banquet given by Stonewall Jackson Camp, Confederate Veterans, of this city:

MR. TOASTMASTER AND GENTLEMEN:—

I am glad to meet these distinguished Ohioans here to-night. Ohio is a great State, and her people are not only good people, but they are a great people. Artemus Ward once said, “Some people are born great, and some are born in Ohio.” He was right. (Laughter.)

Ohio never fails to take a vigorous hand in pretty much everything that arises. That great State leads out in most every important undertaking. She has furnished nearly all the candidates for President of the United States ever since I have had a remembrance of politics—and that has been a long time. The first man I ever voted for for the office of President was born in Ohio (General U. S. Grant); and I have been keeping up the custom practically ever since. I have got used to it, and I expect to keep on doing it. All you have to do “across the river” is to “name your man,” and I will “bob up serenely” at the polls. But, don’t misunderstand me—I am finding no fault with my Ohio brethren for that. I admire a State that never fails “to get in its work.” I greet our Ohio neighbors, and I commend them for leading out in the laudable work of securing a closer fellowship between the “boys who wore the blue and the boys who wore the grey.” In this friendly work, my friends, you are making no mistake. (Applause.)

But my friends, we would have you, of Ohio, bear in mind

that we have, on this side of the Ohio, a great big State of our own; and we are getting bigger and richer mighty fast. We are head over heels in the swim of progress. We are doing lots of work ourselves, and we are doing it "hammer and tongs," "hip and thigh," "hoof and horns," "head and heels." Do you know, my brothers, that West Virginia does not owe a dollar of debt, and has \$1,270,281.92 of a cash balance in her treasury? Do you know that West Virginia produced 20,000,000 barrels of petroleum, 14,000,000 tons of coal, and 1,600,000 tons of coke—all in the year of our Lord, 1897? And no man above the sod knows how many trees we cut and how many boards we sawed in that year, for they are like King Solomon's shekels—too numerous to count. We have in our State more than 9,000,000 acres of absolutely virgin forests. I almost forgot to gently remind you, my Buckeye friends, that we distanced Ohio last year in the production of coal, and thus took third place, instead of fourth in the handling of the dusky diamonds that groan beneath our hills. But I don't desire to punish you by flaunting in your faces this flotilla of facts, while you are our guests on this delightful occasion. I love Ohio, and I cordially invite all of her good people to come to West Virginia and dwell among us, and we will do our level best to make you prosperous and happy. (Loud cheering.)

Pardon me, my friends, for a few thoughts on the mission that brought you here. It seems to me that we are just beginning to appreciate the true grandeur of a united country. We have freedom and we have peace. We have learned to respect honest, faithful toil, Labor is wealth, and man needs no better passport to fame than that he earns his living by the sweat of his brow. The late civil war made labor free, and free thought and free labor have done more than all things else to elevate mankind. They have chained the lightning, conquered steam, bridled machinery, broken down caste, and uplifted man. They have freed out the brain, whetted the intellect, and broadened the outlook of all our people. They have made ours the foremost nation of the world. While we did not understand it at the time, yet it is true that the late civil war rolled away the stone from the door of the sepulchre of progress. China, for centuries, had her gates locked against human progress, and it was left for the scarcely more than half civilized dominion of Japan to break down these barriers and let in the light which

China had sworn should never shine above her people. The world is moving forward. As the old century is grandly rolling out, a newer and a nobler one is rising above the Eastern hills; and I am rejoiced to know that it promises the glad tidings of peace on earth and good will to men. I have, my friends, but "one sentiment for the soldiers living and dead—cheers for the living and tears for the dead."

I am glad the wounds of our civil war have all been healed. There are no better loyalists to-day than the late soldiers of the Southland. "The blue and the grey" are to-day clasping hands across the deep, dark chasm that once divided them, which at one time we felt could never be arched; but it has been arched by the radiant bow of fraternity and love and enduring peace.

"The war is over and Father Time  
Has cleared the strife away—  
And scattered golden sunbeams  
Where once dark shadows lay.  
The heroes sleep; oh, let them rest!  
Don't take their fame away,  
For glory marks each sacred spot—  
Where sleep the Blue and Gray.

"Each fought for what he deemed was right,  
Each heart was brave and true,  
And honor marks the path they trod  
Alike the Gray the Blue.  
And angels hover o'er the scenes  
Where these brave heroes lay,  
And we decorate the graves of all,  
Whether they wore the Blue or Gray."

I was touched most tenderly a few years ago by an incident that was said to have occurred at Indianapolis on Decoration day. A plain but neatly clad little girl brought with her a basket of flowers. She sought out the only Confederate grave in the cemetery, and literally buried it beneath the flowers. Some hard-hearted man said to her, "Why do you do that? Don't you know that is a rebel grave?" "Yes," she promptly replied. "I know that; but my papa is buried at Chattanooga, and I know his little girl will to-day strew flowers on my papa's grave, and I am going to cover her papa's grave with these flowers." My countrymen, this little occurrence tells the whole story. We should forget which side we were on during the dark days of that conflict, when we are called to place flowers upon the graves of our dead. I believe I speak for all West Virgin-



ians when I say, peace to the ashes of both "the blue and the gray."

The Governor was vigorously applauded from the start to the finish of his eloquent address.

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## ADDRESS

*of Governor Geo. W. Atkinson, D.C.L., in the Academy of Music,  
at Richmond, Va., before the Young Men's  
Christian Association.*

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*March 20, 1898.*

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Subject: The When, the Where, the Why; or Find Something to Do, and do it.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN:—

"If you and I to-day should stop and lay  
Our life-work down, and let our hands fall where they will,  
Fall down to lie quite still;  
And if some other hand should come and stoop to find  
The threads we carried so that it could wind,  
Beginning where we stopped; if it should come to keep  
Our life-work going, seek  
To carry on the good design  
Distinctively made yours and mine,  
What would it find? \* \* \*  
If love should come,  
Stooping above when we are done,  
To find bright threads  
That we have held, that it may spin them longer, find but shreds  
That break when touched, how cold,  
Sad, shivering, portionless, the hands will hold  
The broken strands, and know  
Fresh cause for woe."

As men and women, young and old—all of us—should seek to know *when and where and why* we should lend a hand in bettering the condition of our fellow men. The Young Men's Christian Association is one of God's great engines that is now being used to induce all classes, but more especially young men, to be moral, religious and useful. It is plainly the duty of the older

Christian men and women of this audience—indeed, of this country—to assist this and other branch Associations of young men in their untiring work to redeem and save their fellows.

Do you ask *when* you should begin? I answer *now*. Read the Bible, and from Genesis to Revelation, God always speaks to his people in the present tense. It is *now* that your services are wanted, my brother. God does not mortgage your future. The devil does that. But God holds a mortgage on you *now*. “*Now* is the accepted time; *now* is the day of salvation.” Will you take a hand in this work *now*? May I ask you to settle this great question *to-night*?

Do you ask me *where* to begin? Look around you. Anywhere—all about you souls are famishing for the water of life. On every hand men are starving for the bread that cometh down from heaven.

If you want to lend a helping hand to rescue the perishing,

“Go and toil in any vineyard,  
Do not fear to do or dare;  
If you want a field of labor,  
You can find it anywhere.

“Do not then stand idly waiting  
For some greater work to do,  
Fortune is a lazy goddess,  
She will never come to you.

“If you cannot in the conflict,  
Prove yourself a soldier true;  
If where fire and smoke are thickest,  
There’s no work for you to do,

“When the battle-field is silent,  
You can go with careful tread,  
You can bear away the wounded,  
You can cover up the dead.

“If you cannot in the harvest  
Garner up the richest sheaves,  
Many a grain both ripe and golden  
Will the careless reapers leave.

“Go and toil among the briers  
Growing rank against the wall,  
For it may be that their shadows  
Hide the heaviest wheat of all.”

Do you, my friends, ask me *why* you should do this? I answer, because it is right that you should do so, and because God, who has placed you in this beautiful world, requires this much at your hands. May I then ask if it is not the duty

of all of us to find something to do for the Master, and then go and do it? What think you my brother, my friend?

Life is a conflict. On every hand we find two forces persistently contesting for the mastery. On the one hand is morality striving to lift humanity upward to a higher plane of intelligence and usefulness, and to make the world broader and better and nobler and grander. On the other is sin in all of its forms pulling down, debasing, degrading, and destroying. As I journey through the world, I see two heaps. On the one side, is a heap of joy and love and peace and happiness and success. On the other, is a heap of misery and suffering and debauchery and death. As citizens—though young as many of you are—we are building up one or the other of these heaps. There is no way to get around this terrible responsibility. We cannot evade the issue. We, by our acts or our influences, which may be as silent as the falling of the snow-flakes, are building up that heap of human sorrow and disease and despair, or we are rearing higher, and still higher that other heap of joy and peace and love and success. If this is true, and no one will dispute it, ought we not, young and old, at all times, to throw our influence, be it great or small, on the side of morality and religion, and thus aid, as best we can, in lifting all of our associates to a higher plane of intelligence and usefulness among men?

Pliny aptly compared life to a river. The stream, small and clear in its origin, springs forth from rocky dells on the mountain side, falls into deep glens, and wanders along through its romantic and picturesque surroundings, nourishing the wild, uncultivated tree and flower by its dews or its spray. In its state of infancy and youth it has been very properly compared to the human mind, in which fancy and imagination are predominant. When the different branches join one another and descend into the plane below, the stream becomes slow and stately in its motions. Other branches and creeks join it on the right-hand and on the left, until, by and by, it becomes able to bear upon its bosom the massive steamers that carry away the products of our mills, farms, factories, and forges. In its mature state, it is deep, strong and useful. As it flows on, in its meandering way to the sea, it loses its force and its motion, and at last it is lost as it mingles its waters with the deep, broad, blue, majestic ocean.



This is a true picture of human life. We start out on its weird, wandering way, and for a time everything seems real that surrounds us. The trees shed their beautiful blossoms upon our young heads, and the flowers that beautify and brighten everything about us, throw their fragrance athwart our narrow pathway. We are happy in hope and expectation, and we grasp eagerly at the beautiful things all around us; but the stream hurries on, and still our hands are empty. Our course in youth and manhood is along a wilder and deeper flood, amid objects more striking and magnificent. We are animated—indeed, astounded—at the rapidly moving pictures and panoramas that open around and about us. Disappointments come upon, excite, and trouble us; but the stream bears us onward, and griefs and joys alike are left behind. We may be shipwrecked, but we cannot be delayed. Whether rough or smooth, the river hastens to its home, 'till finally the roar of the ocean is in our ears, the tossing of the waves is beneath our feet, the land lessens from our eyes, and the floods are lifted up around us. By and by we take our leave of earth and its inhabitants, until, says the good Bishop Heber, “of our future voyage there is no witness save the Infinite and Eternal God, our Father and Redeemer.”

“There is always a river to cross,  
 Always an effort to make,  
 If there's anything good to win,  
 Any rich prize to take;  
 Yonder's the fruit we crave,  
 Yonder the charming scene;  
 But deep and wide with a troubled tide  
 Is the river that lies between.

“For the treasures of precious worth  
 We must patiently dig and dive;  
 For the places we long to fill  
 We must push and struggle and drive;  
 And always and everywhere  
 We'll find in our onward course  
 Thorns for the feet, and trials to meet  
 And a difficult river to cross.

“The rougher the way that we take,  
 The stouter the heart and the nerve;  
 The Stones in our path we break,  
 Nor e'er from our impulse swerve;  
 For the glory we hope to win,  
 Our labors we count no loss;  
 'Tis folly to pause and murmur because  
 Of the river we have to cross.

“So ready to do and to dare,  
Should we in our places stand,  
Fulfilling the Master’s will  
Fulfilling the soul’s demand;  
For though as the mountains high  
The billows may rear and toss,  
They’ll not o’erwhelm if the Lord’s at the helm—  
One more river to cross.”

Just how much life means, words refuse to tell, because they cannot. The very doorway of life is hung around with flowery emblems to indicate that it is for some purpose. Life may be grand. God intended it to be glorious and so paved its course with diamonds, fringed its banks with flowers, and over-arched it with stars; while around it he has spread the physical universe—suns, moons, worlds, constellations, systems—all that is magnificent in motion, sublime in magnitude, and grand in order and obedience.

But how few of us appreciate the grandeur of life. To float lazily down the stream is to move forward, but unless the speed is increased by personal effort, the individual will find himself or herself always at the same distance from that which he or she is following. Any one can drift, but it takes energy and courage to drive the machinery which God has given us, and to make the most of the circumstances that he has placed within our reach.

My friends, experience has taught me that life is made up of small things which hourly occur as we pass through the world; and these little acts, far more than the large ones, reveal the inward natures of individuals, and furnish the keys to their true history. In the home-life—I may say the nobility and grandeur of home life—more than in any other place is revealed the stuff out of which men and women are made, rather than in those crises that are considered the usual test of one’s make-up as they are written in brilliant feats in the lightning’s glare across the skies. Gentle deeds of kindness strewn along life’s pathway leave behind them a halo of light that will shine longer and brighter than the greatest speeches of the world’s most gifted orators. The little boy who found the waters breaking through the dykes in the lowlands of Holland and promptly stopped the leak with clay, revealed as noble a manhood as brave Winkelreid, who, at the head of the Swiss army, cried “Make way for liberty,” and rushing upon the bayonets of the enemy, made way for liberty and died. The noble Scotch peas-

ant girl, Margaret Graham, who, refusing to renounce her religion, was, by Claverhouse's order, tied to a stake on the sea shore and was overwhelmed by the tide, showed a finer fiber and a braver record than Chambronne, when he shouted to the British, "The guard dies, but never surrenders." The watchman at Pompeii, burned at his post, tells the Roman story in grander language than the ruins of the Collosseum; and brave Herndon, on the deck of his ship, doing all he could to save his crew, choosing death to dishonor, is a grander picture of true, heroic temper than that of Julius Cæsar leading his legions to victory; or the conquering Corsican at the Bridge of Lodi. Ah, friends! among the quiet workers in the world are heroes worthy the emulation of true men and women everywhere. The basis of heroism is unselfishness. The man or the woman who truly and faithfully carries out this passage of Scripture: "Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them that despitefully use you," is God's true hero, and man's best guide on earth.

Fellows, to find something to do, and then do it successfully and properly, requires unity of purpose and unity of action. It seems to me that nothing in this life can be compared with the results and the blessings which naturally flow from the true Brotherhood of Man. If there is one thing that I believe more fully than another, it is the Fatherhood of God, and the Brotherhood of Man: Help one's self, and then help one's neighbor to help himself. This is the true Gospel of the Christ. "Behold how good and how pleasant it is to dwell together in unity," is as trite and true to-day as the day it was written, perhaps four thousand years ago. My friends, we need to lean upon one another as we journey through the world.

I once read this incident which was vouched for as true by a missionary from Africa: Said he, "While traveling through the Southern portion of that dark continent, I observed two lepers in a corn field not far from a hospital or a pest house. One of them had no limbs, the other had no arms. The one with no legs was sitting upon the shoulders of the one with no arms. Upon the back of the latter was a bag of seed-corn which he was dropping in a furrow, while the one with the legs was walking carrying his load and covering up the grains with his feet." Thus the two cripples, by this unity of action, made a perfect man. Such an union of forces should be, as far as possible, the



aim of all good people everywhere. I am convinced that the work of the Young Men's Christian Association among young men, develops a disposition to care for one another's welfare, and creates a desire among young men to love, to cherish, and to help one another along in the great battle of life.

My friends, I would not perform my duty faithfully on this occasion if I should fail to assert a proposition which I believe to be true, and that is this: Character possesses greater power than genius. Heart-power is more potent than brain-power, because it throws its arms around the multitude and lifts them up, while the power to reason with them cannot reach them, and therefore cannot move them. Conscience is greater than intellect, greater than genius. The world may admire intellect and genius, because they carry with them, under many circumstances, conviction and power; but it is left for moral men and moral women with deep sympathy and great hearts to sway the people at their will. George Herbert aptly said, "A handful of good life is worth bushels of learning." And this is why we often find men of no talent, and comparatively ignorant, exercising an influence among their fellows entirely out of proportion to their endowments. They possess a reserved force, a latent power that acts secretly, coming forth at their command, and possesses an indescribable influence upon the people. Their virtues are their means. Who will deny, therefore, that character is the noblest of possessions; and that he who possesses it owns a treasure more valuable than the ores of Peru or the gems of Golconda. I would not have you depreciate scholarship and learning, for in these days of rapid thought and progressive development, they are essential to success, whether one is drifting or driving; but if we are to have one and not both, take character a thousand times in preference to learning.

The great things of this world have been accomplished by men and women whose lives were based on moral acts, and whose teachings have always been along the line of religious living. All of the vast social reformations adown the ages were originated in the minds of men of this class. The great truths that sway the world to-night were first proclaimed by those men that sought, above everything else, the moral and spiritual elevation of their fellow men. Many of the great thoughts which are now the axioms of humanity, proceeded from the hearts of men that were ruled alone by conscience. Moses was the great-

est law-giver of all the centuries. King David raised Israel to a pitch of greatness that proclaimed a theocratic nation to the world. John Wycliffe gave to Christendom the first complete translation of the Bible. John Bunyon, the Bedford tinker, wrote "The Pilgrims Progress," the most wonderful book ever written by human hands, and second only in influence and circulation to the Bible itself. John Knox rescued Scotland from her distracted councils, and her political and ecclesiastical enemies. Martin Luther gave the world a Protestant faith, John Wesley founded Methodism, John Calvin established the Presbyterian denomination; all along the ages, God has placed upon the men that have been scrupulously honest and always moral and true to character and conscience, the honors of overwhelming success.

The thought of finding something to do and doing it—of driving instead of drifting through life, is beautifully expressed by Dr. Charles Mackay in this single stanza:

"Tis weary watching wave by wave,  
And yet the tide heads onward;  
We climb like corals, grave by grave,  
And pave a path that's sunward.  
We're beaten back in many a fray,  
But newer strength we borrow,  
And where our vanguard camps to-day,  
The rear shall rest to-morrow."

I want to tell you, my friends, if we are to make successful headway in our Association work, we should be absolutely unselfish. The world, however, is naturally selfish. That is to say, humanity in general have an exclusive regard to their own interests or happiness. They, as a rule, have a supreme love of self, without regard to the interests or happiness of others. If selfishness is not the greatest sin in the world, it is beyond question a great sin of the world. Go where you may, you will find the soulless individual wrapped in his robes of narrowness and meanness, turning a deaf ear to pleas of merit, and studying how he can best manipulate everything within his reach for his own personal aggrandizement.

An arrogant person, if he join in the performance of any laudable action, with men of moderate natures, deals with them in the sharing of the praise, as the lion in the fable did with the other beasts, dividing the prey they had taken; who making of the whole four parts, pleads a title to three of them at least,

and if they yielded him not the fourth, of their own good will, he would be no longer friendly. Many persons occupy public positions with private spirits. Whatever their pretensions may be, their real aim is to advance self-interest. Such people are as suckers at the root of a tree that absorb the sap which is intended to keep it alive and give it healthy growth.

The following advertisement, which I once saw posted on the door of a blacksmith's shop at a cross-roads in the country, illustrates my idea of selfishness:

"NOTIS.

"The pardnership heretofore resisten betwixt me and Mose Skinner, has this day been resolved. Them what owes the firm will please settle with me, and them what the firm owes will please settle with Mose Skinner."

(The speaker then gave another illustration of a red-headed man, which very effectively proved the character of selfishness.)

But, my friends, does selfishness pay in the long-run? AEsop, who possessed wisdom far above his rank and esteem in life, in one of his fables, speaks of a man who kept a horse and an ass and who was wont in his journeys to spare the horse and put all the burden upon the ass. The ass, which had been ailing, besought the horse one day to relieve him of a portion of his load. "For if," said he, "you would take a fair portion of the burden I will soon get well again; but if you refuse to help me, this weight will surely kill me." The horse however bade the ass get on, and not trouble him with his complaints. The ass joggled on in silence, but presently overcome with his burden, dropped down dead, as he had foretold. Upon this, the master coming up, unloosed the load from the dead ass, and putting it upon the horse's back made him carry the asses carcass in addition. "Alas for my illnature," said the horse: "by refusing to bear my just portion of the load, I have now to carry the whole of it, with a dead weight into the bargain."

Still it is in nature to be selfish. Even the child before it has entered very far into the great school of experience, is tempted to be unjust towards its fellows.

How much grander and nobler it is for one to cultivate a generous, open, self sacrificing spirit: a nature that goes out in love and sympathy for our fellows—caring for them, building them up, speaking well of them, and making them better by associations with them. A team of horses was one day running off



with a small child, when a mother, seeing its danger, cried in agony, "Stop that wagon and save the child!" as loud as she could scream. A heartless man said, "Silly woman, don't fret yourself; *it isn't your child!*" The woman replied, "*I know it; but it is some other poor mother's child.*"

If by a kind, unselfish act, we should make some person happy every day, in twenty years we would have to each of our credits seven thousand three hundred; and in fifty years, eighteen thousand two hundred and fifty good deeds. My dear friends, don't you think that would pay?

Again, I remark, if we would understand the force of the subject we are considering, we must possess activity, energy, perseverance. An old Indian was one day asked what, in his judgment, men loved most? His reply was instantaneous: "Men think men most love lazy." He was right—pre-eminently right.

My friends, shirking never pays; and you know, in this driving age in which we live, the oft-repeated query comes to us every day, "Will it pay?" Idleness is the bane of both body and mind, the chief mother of all mischief, one of the seven deadly sins, the devil's cushion, his pillow and chief reposal. An idle dog, everybody knows, will be mangy; and how shall an idle person escape? Idleness of the mind is worse than idleness of the body. Wit without employment is a disease—the rust of the soul, a plague, a hell itself. Some apt writer has said: "As in a standing pool worms and filthy creepers increase, so do evil and corrupt thoughts in an idle person." The converse of working is shirking. The workers succeed, but what becomes of the idlers and the shirkers? No one need ever hope for success by a dooless course in life. To win success, every man must paddle his own canoe—must "toat his own skillet," as Sam. Jones aptly expresses it.

"Keep pushing, 'tis wiser than sitting aside,  
And dreaming and sighing and waiting the tide;  
In life's busy conflict, they only prevail,  
Who daily keep pushing, and never say fail.

"With an eye always open, a tongue that's not dumb,  
A heart that will never to sorrow succumb;  
In storm or in sunshine; whatever assail,  
Keep pressing right onward, and never say fail.

"The spirits of angels are happy, I know  
As higher, and higher in glory they go;  
Methinks on bright pinions from heaven they sail,  
To cheer and encourage who never say fail.

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"In life's rosy morning, in manhood's firm pride,  
Let this be the motto your footsteps to guide:  
In sickness or sorrow, though thousands assail,  
God blessing our labors, we can never say fail."

My brothers and friends, another thought which our subject suggests, is *good example*. Nothing I can now think of is so contagious—so helpful to our fellows as example. The tendency among all classes is to do as others do. Never was there any good or ill done that did not produce its like. We imitate good actions through emulation, and bad ones through a malignity in our natures which shame conceals and example sets at liberty. Every man we meet, every book we read, every picture or landscape we see, every word or tone we hear, mingles with our being and leaves its impress upon us. Nothing leaves us wholly as it found us. O, my friends, the power, the wonderful transforming power of example!

It cannot be claimed that the acts and deeds of this life are permanently enduring; and yet in a measure there is an essence of immortality about them. There is therefore something solemn in the thought that there is not an act done, or a word uttered by a human being that does not carry with it a train of consequences, the end of which we may never trace. Not one, but to a certain extent, gives color to our lives, and insensibly influences the lives of those about us. The good deed or word will live, even though we may not live to see it fructify; and so will the bad. No person is so insignificant as to be sure that his or her example will not do good on the one hand, or evil on the other. The spirits of men and women do not die; they still live and walk abroad among us. As the present is rooted in the past, and the lives and examples of our forefathers still, to a great extent, influence us, so are we by our daily acts contributing to form the condition and character of the future. Mankind is a fruit formed and ripened by the culture of all the foregoing centuries. And the living generation continues the current of action and example destined to bind the remotest past with the most distant future.

Pardon an observation—I may say a criticism, along this line of thought. It is this: None should try to shield themselves from responsibilities because of the humble and, in a sense, insignificant stations some of them occupy in life. The lowest condition can be made useful, for the light set in a low place shines as faithfully as that set upon a high hill. Everywhere and un-

der almost all circumstances, however externally adverse, the true man may grow. He who tills a space of earth scarce larger than is needed for his grave, may work as faithfully and to as good a purpose as the heir to thousands. The commonest workshop may thus be a school of industry and good morals on the one hand, or of idleness, folly and depravity on the other. It all depends, my friends, upon the individuals themselves, and the use they make of the opportunities for good that a wise Providence places within their reach.

A proper example, therefore, carries with it the highest ideal of life and character. Only a few can reach positions of great power and influence in this life, but every one can act his or her part honestly and honorably and use the talents which God has given him to the best of his ability. Life is centered in the sphere of ordinary duties. Many of us may have to struggle against a heavy current; but if we persevere, we will certainly reach the harbor at last.

"Right for ever on the scaffold,  
Wrong for ever on the throne;  
But that scaffold sways the future,  
And behind the dim unknown  
Standeth God, within the shadow,  
Keeping watch above his own."

My fellows, pardon me for presenting one thought more. It is this: How easy it is for all of us to become discouraged over our disappointments and mishaps in life. Ninety-two out of every one hundred men that engage in business enterprises fail. How dark would the world be if we had no one to encourage us when we are down beneath the burdens that fall upon all of us in the journey of life. What a blessing to the world is the Church of Jesus Christ. What a comfort there is in Christian privileges and Christian Associations. Oh! the darkness of a world without a Savior—a Comforter. Religion says to us, "Though the way may be rough, your feet may be sore, and dark clouds may envelop you; press on there is a light ahead." No man, with a man's heart in his bosom, gets far on his wilderness way without some bitter, soul-searching disappointment. How many of us build castles in the air, and expect by and by that they will prove as real as they seem; but when we reach out our hands to grasp them, they vanish like some will-o'-the-wisp, and the expectant heart is saddened over the disappointment it receives. An ancient mathematician attributed



his success to certain words written by a friend on the paper cover of his book, when he was discouraged. These were the words: "Go on, sir; go on! The difficulties you meet will disappear as you advance. Proceed, and light will dawn and shine with increased clearness on your path." The dispirited student declared in after years that this maxim proved his greatest master in mathematics. Following out these simple words, "Go on, sir; go on!" made him the foremost mathematical astronomer of his generation. Thus difficulties innumerable are swept away by a determined will and a resolute heart.

Dr. Newman Hall, in one of his London sermons, gave this thrilling picture of a discouraged man, who was saved from death by a thoughtful and resolute wife: "A tall chimney," said Dr. Hall, "had been completed, and the scaffolding was being removed. One man remained on the top to superintend the process. A rope should have been left for him to descend by. His wife was at home washing when her little son burst in upon her with; 'Mother, mother, they have forgotten the rope and father is about to throw himself down from the top of the chimney.' She paused; her lips moved in the agony of prayer; and she rushed forth. A crowd of persons were looking up at the poor man, who was moving round the narrow cornice terrified and bewildered. He seemed as if at any moment he might fall, or throw himself down in despair. His wife from below, cried out, 'Wait, John! Stand firm!' The man recognizing the voice of his wife became calm. 'Take off your stocking; unravel the yarn.' And he did it. 'Now, tie the end to a bit of mortar, and lower gently' Down came the thread and the bit of mortar, swinging backward and forward. Lower and lower it descended, eagerly watched by many eyes. It is now within reach and is gently seized by one of the crowd. They fastened some twine to the thread. 'Now, pull up,' cried the wife. The man in a moment got hold of the twine. The rope was now fastened on. 'Pull away again,' cried the wife. He at last seized the rope and made it fast. There were a few moments of suspense, and then amidst the shouts of the people he threw himself into the arms of his wife a rescued man." Ah, friend! however discouraged you may become, if you will but pause and consider where you stand, and not hasten to unwarranted conclusions, there will always be presented at an opportune moment, a thread, a cord, a rope, a rescue.

It is easy to discourage a friend in any of his undertakings. One may be never so buoyant that he cannot be disheartened. The battle of Mount Gilboa, which settled the earthly destiny of the first King of the Jews, was lost before it was begun, because of the discouragements heaped upon the Israelitish chieftain by the designing Witch of Endor.

And so it is in most of our trials in life; we give up too quickly, and once down we lack the courage to rise again. Dr. Charles Mackay, who has written many beautiful things in verse, never wrote anything more inspiring, and at the same time truer to life, than these four stanzas:

“Art thou down? Low down?  
In the desecrating dust,  
Without a prop to aid thee,  
Or a friend in whom to trust?  
Trust to thyself, forlorn one,  
Stand upright on the sod,  
And asking help of no one,  
Secure the help of God.

“Art thou down? Low down?  
Day dark! To-morrow fair!  
To hope is pious duty,  
'Tis wicked to despair!  
If honest pride support thee,  
And conscience keep thee whole,  
Fate's arrows may be blunted  
By the armor of the soul!

“When in the deadly struggle  
Of hand and heart and brain,  
Thy foothold seems to fail thee;  
Arise and fight again!  
Turn sorrow into solace,  
And in their own despite  
Compel thy foes to aid thee  
To conquer in the fight.

“Though day be long in breaking,  
The sun must rise at last—  
Blue sky may cheer the noon time,  
Though the morn be overcast!  
Fight on! fight on! fight ever!  
Thou'lt learn the truth ere long,  
That God and man and heaven and earth  
Are allies of the strong.”

My friends, the good work that these young men are doing can scarcely be estimated. It is simply wonderful in its scope and power. Think of 350,000 young men banded together in thirty-five nations and isles of the sea, speaking fifteen languages, possessed of permanent property amounting to twelve

millions of dollars, expending annually in their work over two millions, and with this money, given by their members and friends, keeping open, hospitable buildings and rooms in some 3,000 cities and towns the round world over—this is the Young Men's Christian Association of to-day in the extent of its influence.

Surely, such a noble body of men banded together for such laudable purposes is worthy of your confidence and support. More than that, you will pardon me for saying, you owe these young men a debt that money cannot pay. You owe them a debt of gratitude for the moral and religious influence they are exerting here in Richmond, that you can never repay. You can, however, see to it that they are not hampered for want of means to successfully prosecute their work. They are doing well. With larger means and better appliances they could accomplish still greater good for the Master and their fellow men.

And now, good friends, one word more in concluding. In the places you are filling in the home circle, are you doing all you can? As citizens of the greatest, grandest, freest Republic beneath the stars, are you doing all you can for God and the people? As business men, are you doing what you can? As workers in the vineyard of the Master, are you doing your level best? Are you at ease in Zion, or are you like true soldiers, standing on the watch-towers, with swords drawn in defense of those principles and doctrines given us in God's inimitable Word, that have, all along the ages, transformed darkness into light and sorrow into joy? If we have been half-hearted and inactive in the past, let us to-night throw open the throttle-valve, so to speak, and henceforth drive with all the force God has given us, in the direction of high mental, moral and spiritual living, as we journey through the world. Let us pledge ourselves anew to stand by the Young Men's Christian Association. Let us stand by our churches. Let us stand by our pastors. Let us stand by the Savior and the Cross. Let us stand by Him who has stood by us through the storms of nineteen centuries and more. Let us stand by Him who has been a father to the fatherless, and has pledged relief to the helpless of every land and nationality of men. Let us stand by the "Old Ship Zion," as she plows the seas and bears upon her prowess to-night the noble and glorious message of "Glory to God in the highest, on earth peace and good will to men."



“Oh! who would not a champion be  
In this the lordlier chivalry?  
Uprise ye now brave brother band,  
With honest heart and working hand.  
We are but few, toil tried, but true,  
And hearts beat high to dare and do.  
Oh! there be those who ache to see  
The day-dawn of our victory.  
Work brother, work with hand and brain,  
We'll win the golden age again,  
And love's millennial morn shall rise  
In happy hearts and blessed eyes.  
We will, we will brave champions be  
In this the lordlier chivalry.”

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## ADDRESS.

*of Governor Atkinson, of West Virginia, at Laying of the  
Corner-Stone of the M. E. Church, at Hamlin, W. Va.*

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*April 14, 1898.*

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MY FRIENDS AND FELLOW CITIZENS:—

The century that is quietly, but grandly rolling out, is the greatest of all the centuries of the past. Gibbon, in his history of the Roman Empire, states that the reign of Marcus Aurelius, in the second century, was the golden age of the world. This may be true as applied to that period of the world's history; but in everything that goes to make true greatness, in no respect can it be compared with the closing decade of the nineteenth century. In discovery, in literature, in culture, in educational advancement, in progress, in loyalty to principle; indeed, in everything, except perhaps in art, in poetry, and probably in music, the present is truly the golden age of the world. No period in the past can be justly claimed as comparable with the present. The great inventions and discoveries that have abolished time, annihilated space and subjugated the forces of nature, making the solence of the seas articulate and the darkness of midnight luminous—not one of these existed in the Second Century. At that time there was not a friction match, nor an iron plowshare, nor a mile of railroad in the world. The tele-

graph, the telephone, the typewriter, the sewing machine, electric illumination, agricultural machinery, chloroform and the other indispensable agencies of modern civilization, were wholly unknown. And yet, in this our day, the golden age has not arrived. When we have peace instead of war, education instead of ignorance on the part of the many, patriotism instead of disloyalty, sobriety instead of drunkenness, honesty instead of greed, working instead of shirking, religion instead of unbelief—when all these things shall come about, the golden age will then have dawned, and the world will have become truly good and truly great. I tell you, my friends, the hope of the future lies in the triumphs of religion and education. The Church is the greatest civilizer of all the centuries, and it moves hand in hand with education. They are the twin sisters of progress, and he who does not aid both of them, in every way possible, is not a true patriot, nor is he a friend of civilization. Religion and education have ever been the gauge of the progress of mankind. Humanity is uplifted wholly by them. There is no real growth without them. Every dollar expended for the Church and for education is two dollars saved in actual outlay to keep the peace and maintain the law. More religion and education, fewer police officers. More churches and school-houses, fewer alms houses. More preachers and teachers, fewer vagabonds and convicts. Higher conceptions of religion and duty follow the higher education of all classes. Religion and education work together in perfect harmony to lift humanity upward to higher planes of intelligence and usefulness.

It has been aptly said that uniforms and guns and cannons and swords do not make soldiers. No, my friends, soldiers are made by the service they render on the march and in the brunt of battle. Real men do not grow upon parlor carpets any more than trees grow in hot-beds. Real men are made by coming in contact with their fellow men, just as trees are made to take deeper root, and stand all the firmer because of the storms that beat against them on the mountain crests. Men are not made men by the jewels they wear or the official positions they fill, but by the cleanness of their lives and the exemplification in their daily avocations of the principles of morality and virtue which all should possess.

The Church is made, not by massing men and women together in cushioned pews and within massive walls such as shall be

piled upon this elaborate foundation. The Church of the living God is something more than foundations and buildings and pews and preachers and people. These are only incidents and factors of the Church. There is infinitely more than these factors needed to constitute the Church. The tap-root of the Church of Christ, my friends, "is the vivid apprehension of the great revealed truths about accountability, redemption, heaven, hell, immortality, eternity. There must be an awakened conscience, which sees in sin the undying worm and unquenchable fire, the one infinitely horrid thing that God hates, against which his awakened wrath flows for ever like a shoreless ocean of fire. There must be a deep and humiliating experience of an absolute surrender to the will of God, taking his cause in evil as well as in good reports, facing foes, enduring persecutions, entering dungeons, embracing charred stakes, kissing the headman's ax, and braving also the tortures of scorn and contempt. There must also be a holy, all dominating purpose, encircling all the race and covering all the years, to do the utmost possible at all times and in all places, to lift this dying race of men and women up to God and immortality and heaven. A people, my brethren and friends, thus convicted and equipped, standing upon the Rock of Ages, inspired by the Holy Spirit and taught by the Word of God, may rise into the dignity and power of a Church." These, therefore, are the only true elements of a Church, and any other is only one of form without the elements of godliness and power.

Let us, my fellow citizens, for a moment "look over the sweep of history which lies open behind us that we may catch, if we can, God's instruction from the ages. The enduring empires have been great empires." Egypt and Greece and Rome and China and Germany and England and our own great Government as well, were insignificant and powerless until they united all of their provinces under common flags and worked together for a common purpose and a common end. And those Nations that educated the moral and spiritual natures of their subjects as well as their intellects; have stood the storms of the centuries; while those that looked only to the development of the minds of their people and ignored their moral and spiritual faculties, have lapsed into barbarism. This great truth has been woven into the warp and the woof of the history of all peoples, and has been filtered into the blood of all nations, and has



molded the statesmanship of all ages, and holds with unabating power over the Church of Christ as well. The aggressive, successful nations, therefore, are the religious nations, and the Church that does the most for mankind is the spiritual Church,—the Church whose ministers and members toil early and late, in sunshine or rain, in season and out of season, and always. That is the Church of the present and will be the Church of the future, and none other can perform the work it was designed, under God, to accomplish.

“You and I, my friends, may nurse our petty politics and cavil about our personal rights, while the common enemies of the Church march through the breaks in our ranks, leaving us, in our weakness and littleness, to mourn over our defeats; but there is a wiser and a wider statesmanship within our reach, which will close up all denominational breaks in the Church, and in all charitable auxiliary organizations, economize all power in their vast expenditures, utilize the helpfulness of kindly friends, and thus compel the respect of infidels and scoffers everywhere.”

My fellow citizens, God's Church has come to stay. The truth has come to stay. Justice and right have come to stay. The Agnostics and the Materialists and the so-called Scientists, with their little Henry Clay heads—with more clay than Henry—may continue to butt their puny heads against the walls of God's great Church, but they will never even jar it. Men, with littleness and prejudices, may oppose the progress of the Church, as many are now doing, but they will go down to forgotten graves, and the Church will live on forever. While the war goes on, patiently within the shadow stands the Prince of Peace offering crowns of righteousness, which all shall wear, when they join the great procession that is heading on to victory.

This wonderful work will go on and continue to go on until the reign of the New Humanity, upon which the two Saints John endeavored to plant the Christian Church, shall be finally ushered in. John the Baptist was the first great reformer, while John the Evangelist was the last great Prophet. These two Johns were the Patron Saints of the Christian Church. John Baptist, with his sledge-hammer logic and his cast-steel courage, opened the way for the coming Messiah. The Messiah came, and by his great example, the Baptist left his impress upon all the ages. Then the other great John stepped upon

the scene, and taking up the work where the Baptist left off, in that marvelous Apocalyptic vision, recalled to coming generations the golden age that will ultimately dawn upon the world, when the New Humanity shall rule and reign, and when the people shall see and know God as he is.

This latter John in his first epistle general, chapter 3, verse 2, thus wrote: "Beloved now are we the sons of God; and it doth not yet appear what we shall be, but we know that, when He shall appear, we shall be like Him; for we shall see Him as He is." This, my brethren, in my opinion, refers to the New Humanity that shall some day, in God's good time, people this earth. It will then be the golden age, to which I have referred. According to my way of reasoning, this prophecy does not apply to heaven, but to earth. When the Church shall triumph, when right shall prevail over wrong, when religion shall rule all peoples, when the Nations shall bow to the mandates of the Heavenly King—then, in this world, and not in the next, "we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is."

It cannot be denied that the Church is moving forward. It grows wonderfully and marvelously with the passing of the years. There is progress all along the lines of religious endeavor. The young Christian workers are organizing as never before. They have come to the front in solid phalanx and with steady step. Their army is numbered by the million, and they are going forth from conquering to conquest. They are simply an irresistible power in the earth. The existence in the United States alone of about 1,000 evangelical Church organizations, within the neighborhood of 90,000 ministers and 13,000,000 communicants, a three-fold gain of their communicants upon the total population, is at least some evidence that this is one of the Church's favorite periods, and that no signs of retrogression can anywhere be seen.

Another proof of the aggressiveness of the Church and the piety of the times, is the willingness of the people to contribute to its support. In this respect, wonderful headway is also being made. The American churches, in the last ninety years, have contributed in round numbers, about \$200,000,000 to home and foreign missions, and are contributing annually \$7,000,000 to these objects alone. Probably since 1850, more money has been raised by the Protestant Churches of Christendom for purely religious purposes, aside from current

Church expenses and local charities, than was raised for the same object in all the previous eighteen centuries.

The proofs are sufficient that while there is an inexorable demand of God's law and providence upon all the people, that they be prophets and come to his help against the mighty, there is little alarm and hopelessness. The great work is going forward and can not be impeded by so-called "Modern Criticism" which is a puny apology for senseless Agnosticism. Despite all opposition, the car moves steadily forward, and all the powers of earth and hell can not throw it off the track.

My fellow citizens, I have said in this address, and I believe it to be strictly true, that the most powerful factor in the civilization of the world, and the elevation of the human race, is the Christian religion. The pure morality of the teachings of the Christ, and their beauty reflected on the ages for nearly two thousand years, from his own life and conduct among men, has changed the whole nature and purpose of the human race. Every man is born into the world with three shells around him—ignorance, superstition, selfishness, and the Gospel of the Christ has broken all of them, and has, wherever it has been put to the test, dispelled these dark clouds of ignorance, superstition and selfishness which for centuries enveloped the human family and stupefied the human race. As a result, human life is longer, better and every day happier, and with it has come a clearer and broader comprehension of the rights and duties of man. He has come to understand that the humblest individual has the same claims to life and liberty and the pursuit of happiness as the king upon his throne; and this subtle and potent influence is overthrowing despotism, breaking the chains of slavery and sapping the very foundation of tyranny and oppression. I say to-day, without fear of successful contradiction, that there is no culture which has so touched man on every side and has so universally bettered his condition as Christian culture, and there is no power so potent for good among all classes and nations as the teachings of Christ's Gospel.

I am aware that the learned skeptic and the highly cultivated scientist, in attempting to write the history of civilization and human progress, seek for other causes, and construct theories about the climate and purer blood and higher nobility of race, and give these the credit for human development. But these theories will not stand the test of fair and honest investigation.



The history of the Anglo-Saxon race is proof positive to the contrary. The impartial historian of the human race, who writes not to bolster up a pre-conceived opinion, but to find out the mysterious forces that awaken the human mind to even a feeble conception of its powers, and continues to rouse it to a wider range of vision, must give to Christianity the first and foremost place. Impress upon the benighted mind of the barbarian, on the feeble intellect of the child, that God is the Father of all, and has stamped his own Divine image upon every soul; and that the infinite and boundless love of the All-Father goes out to all his children; that all alike are, in a sense, equal to him; and that this life is but preparatory to the better one beyond—and then you have the very starting point on the highway of human progress. The fool may say in his heart that there is no God, but such folly does not arrest the march of truth. As the generations come and go, the dial-plate of human progress records all the advances that have been made. The motive power and elevating force that is thus lifting the human race to a higher plane, is the Christian religion; and this mysterious, all potent power, is absolutely invisible. I have already said that it is not the Church edifices, nor the ministers nor the individual Church members that exert this influence and power. They are only incidents and factors. The real power is the omniscient God himself, and all the Skeptics this side of hell cannot controvert it.

My countrymen, the power of the Gospel has broken link after link the chains of ignorance, superstition and selfishness, and the most enlightened of all lands are beginning to walk erect in the dignity of the free and disenthralled. There are those who would snuff out the flaming torch that has lighted our pathways for two thousand years, and would relegate us to the benighted ways our people trod before John the Baptist cried in the wilderness that their paths should be made straight; but they are few, and their ranks are lessening every year. The evidence is overwhelming and conclusive that the motive power of all human advancement is found in the teachings of the Church, and that he who would rob the world of that light is the enemy of his own soul and an open foe to the best interests of his fellow man.

The stone we have laid to-day no builder can set at naught, because it stands for the Church of the living God, and for all that is noble and true and good in man.

I am, my friends, one of those who believe that the world is growing better instead of worse. There are more men and women now engaged in the world's salvation, in proportion to population, than ever before; and this army has not only increased in numbers, but it has also increased in efficiency and power. These are stirring times in which God has called us into being. Religious sentiment has a deeper hold upon the American people to-day than it has ever had. The churches that are its exponents hold still more and wider power, and are always to be reckoned with in the administration of public affairs. The time has passed when public men in the United States venture, by policy or by measure, to affront this religious sense of their constituents. Besides the growing persuasion of that absolute equality of religious relations among individuals in the Nation which was a principle in the genius of the old Hebrew Commonwealth, the four most significant aspects of American religious development are: 1. The accelerating progress of our Christian Churches towards catholicity of Spirit. 2. The steadily awakening zeal in the effort for the welfare of the poorer classes in society. 3. The organized agency of women in the religious and benevolent activities which are the charm and glory of our civilization. 4. The organization of, and the bringing into line of active workers, the young men and women of the various Christian Churches. With this broadening of the field of labor, and the enlistment of all these new forces, all toiling for the same end, and impelled by the same spirit, I cannot be mistaken when I say that there is a better day coming bye and bye. We look into the future and hail the coming of the morn, radiant and effulgent, when the waves of the sea will become the crystal chords of a grand organ on which the fingers of everlasting joy will peal the grand march of a world redeemed to God.

“There's a good time coming,  
A good time coming;  
We may not live to see the day,  
But earth shall glisten in the ray  
Of the good time coming.  
Cannon balls may aid the truth,  
But thought's a weapon stronger;  
We'll win the battle by its aid—  
Wait a little longer.

“There's a good time coming,  
A good time coming;  
The pen shall supercede the sword,  
And right, not might, shall be the lord

In the good time coming,  
Worth, not birth, shall rule mankind,  
And be acknowledged stronger;  
The proper impulse has been given,  
Wait a little longer.

"There's a good time coming,  
A good time coming;  
War in all men's eyes shall be  
A monster of iniquity  
In the good time coming.  
Nations shall not quarrel then,  
To prove which is the stronger;  
Nor slaughter men for glory's sake.  
Wait a little longer.

"There's a good time coming,  
A good time coming;  
Hateful rivalries of creeds  
Shall not make their martyrs bleed  
In the good time coming.  
Religion shall be shorn of pride,  
And flourish all the stronger;  
And charity shall trim her lamp,  
Wait a little longer.

"There's a good time coming,  
A good time coming;  
The people shall be temperate,  
And shall love instead of hate  
In the good time coming,  
They shall use, and not abuse  
And make all virtue stronger;  
The reformation has begun,  
Wait a little longer.

"There's a good time coming,  
A good time coming;  
Let us aid it all we can—  
Every woman, every man—  
The good time coming.  
Smallest helps, if rightly given,  
Make the impulse stronger:  
'T will be strong enough some day,  
Wait a little longer."



## THE BIBLE.

*Governor Atkinson's Opinion of the Bible.*

*May 10, 1898.*

An opinion was asked of all the Governor's as to the value of the Holy Bible as a Text-book, and as to its influence upon the people. In reply to this inquiry, Governor Atkinson expressed himself in the language following:

“State of West Virginia,  
“Executive Chamber,  
“Charleston, May 10, 1898.

“MRS. ELIZABETH B. COOK,  
“President Woman's Educational Union,  
Chicago, Ills.

“DEAR MADAM: I have received a copy of the little volume published by your ‘Woman's Educational Union’, entitled ‘Readings from the Bible,’ and have carefully examined it. I beg to commend your thoughtfulness and enterprise in this important matter. The Bible, in my judgment, is the greatest civilizing power of the centuries, and the selections you have made from its pages for use in our public schools, cannot fail of good results. The arrangement you have made of these Scripture selections will prove very helpful to teachers, and impressive to students in our schools.

“Mature reflection, covering many years, has caused me to conclude that the most powerful factor in the civilization of the world is the Holy Bible. Its teachings and doctrines have made human life happier and longer and better. It has broadened the outlook and bettered the life of every person who has gauged his or her conduct by its precepts. It has pulled the arrogant and biggoted individual downward and lifted the humble and lowly upward. It has overthrown despotisms, has broken the chains of slavery, and has sapped the very foundations of tyranny and oppression. No other influence has so touched mankind on every side and has so effectively lifted the world to

higher heights of intelligence and usefulness as the inspired Word of Almighty God. It, therefore, seems to me that he who attempts to rule the Bible out of our schools is an enemy to his own soul, as well as to his fellow man,—especially if it is not used in a doctrinal, denominational or sectarian sense by the teachers of the Public Schools. No teacher should be allowed to do more than simply read the Bible to his or her pupils, without note or comment, and to this no one, in my judgment, ought to object.

“Believing as I do, that there is no other book so potent for good among all classes and nations and peoples, as the Word of God, I commend it as a text-book in all schools, colleges and universities in this and all lands, and earnestly and heartily endorse the course that you have taken and the work that you are doing to make the world better and broader and nobler and grander.

“I have the honor to be

“Your most ob’t servant,

“GEO. W. ATKINSON,

“Governor of West Va.”

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## EPWORTH LEAGUE CONVENTION.

*Address of Governor G. W. Atkinson, Ph.D., of West Virginia,  
at Atlanta, Georgia, before the Epworth League  
Convention of the South.*

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*May 12, 1898.*

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MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN:—

Successful armies are not made of uniforms and guns and cannons and swords. Successful soldiers are not made by equipments such as these. The equipments I have mentioned are, in a sense, essential; but it requires more than these to constitute successful soldiers and victorious armies. The true soldier is made by the services he renders on the march and in the brunt

of battle. Real men do not grow upon parlor carpets any more than trees grow in hot-beds. Real men are made by coming in contact with their fellow men, just as trees are caused to take deeper roots and stand all the firmer because of the storms that beat against them upon the mountain crests. Men are not made men by the jewels they wear or the official positions they fill, but by the cleanness of their lives and the exemplification, in their daily avocations and callings, of the principles of morality and virtue which must lie at the foundation of all real success.

The Church, my friends, is not made by massing men and women together in the cushioned pews of costly edifices. The Church of the living God is something more than buildings and pews and preachers and people. These, at most, are only incidents and factors of the Church. There is, therefore, required infinitely more than these factors to constitute a Church. The tap-root of the Church of Christ is the understanding of, and a complete yielding to the will of the Master—an awakened conscience, and a vivid conception of accountability, redemption, immortality, eternity. These are the true elements of a Church, and any other Church is only one of form, without the elements of godliness and power. A Church without such consecration and sacrifice, will prove as helpless as a gorgeously uniformed army without patriotism and without actual service in the field. This is the unerring, unfaltering teachings of the Scriptures, and it is also the incontrovertible teachings of the centuries. The aggressive, successful, enduring nations have invariably been the religious nations; and the Church that has done the most to make the world better and broader and nobler and grander, is the spiritual Church—the Church whose ministers and members are the most self-sacrificing and the most earnest workers, with the single aim to better the condition of society and lift humanity to higher conceptions of right and duty. A Church thus consecrated is the Church of the present and will be the Church of the future; and none other can perform the work it was designed under God to accomplish.

We hear much now-a-days of the so-called "Modern Criticism," and some of our people are much concerned, lest it might weaken or impede the spread of the Gospel. Fear not, my brethren. God's Church has come to stay. The truth has come to stay. Justice and right have come to stay. The Epworth League has come to stay. All of these auxiliary organizations of the young



people of the different Evangelical Churches of our land have come to stay. The Agnostics and the Materialists and the so-called Scientists, with their little Henry Clay heads—with more clay than Henry—may continue to butt their puny heads against the walls of God's great Church, but they will never even jar it. Men with prejudices and bigotry and littleness and narrowness in their outlooks may oppose the progress of the Church, as many are now endeavoring to do, but they will go down to forgotten graves, while the Church will live on forever. The banks of the stream of time are strewn with the wrecks of censorships and inquisitions and racks and thumb-screws and fagots; with the corpses of monarchs and dead empires as pitiful memorials of those who have sought to shackle human thought and conscience by opposing the mighty juggernaut of truth and righteousness. While this war goes on, patiently within the shadow stands the Prince of Peace offering crowns of righteousness which all victors shall wear, when they join the great procession that is leading on to victory.

My countrymen, this wonderful work will go on and will continue to increase in power until the reign of the New Humanity, upon which the two Saints John endeavored to plant the Christian Church, shall be finally ushered in. John the Baptist was the first great reformer, while John the Evangelist was the last great prophet. These two Johns were the patron saints of the Church of the present and the future. John Baptist, with his sledge-hammer logic and his cast-steel courage, opened up the way for the coming of the Messiah; and by his great example he left his impress upon the centuries. Then, the other great John stepped upon the scene, and taking up the work where the Baptist left off, in that marvelous Apocalyptic vision, recalled to coming generations the golden age that will ultimately dawn upon the world, when the New Humanity shall rule and reign, and when all the people shall see and know God as he is.

This latter John, in his First Epistle General, third chapter, and at the second verse, thus wrote: "Beloved now are we the sons of God; and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when we shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is." This, my brethren, in my opinion, refers to the New Humanity that shall some day, in God's good time, people this earth. It will then be the golden age of this

beautiful, yet sin-sick world of ours. According to my way of reasoning (and in this I may not be strictly orthodox), this prophecy does not apply to heaven, but to earth. When the Church shall ultimately triumph, when right shall prevail over wrong, when the true religion shall rule all peoples, when all the nations shall bow to the mandates of the Heavenly King—then, in this world, and not in the next, “we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is.”

It cannot be denied, my fellow citizens, that the Church is moving forward. It grows wonderfully and marvelously with the passing of the years. There is progress all along the lines of religious endeavor. The young Christian workers are organizing as never before. They have come to the front in solid phalanx and with steady and unfaltering step. This army alone is numbered by millions, and they are going forth from conquering to conquest. They are simply an irresistible power in the earth. The existence in the United States alone of more than one thousand evangelical Church organizations, with about 90,000 ministers and 13,000,000 communicants, a three-fold gain of communicants upon the total population, is at least some evidence that this is one of the Church's favorite periods, and that no signs of retrogression can anywhere be seen.

Another proof of the aggressiveness of the Church and the piety of the times, is the increasing willingness of the people to contribute to its support. The Churches of the United States since the beginning of this century, have contributed, in round numbers, \$200,000,000 to home and foreign missions, and are contributing annually \$7,000,000 to these objects alone. In the past fifty years, more money has been raised by the Protestant Churches of Christendom, for purely religious purposes, aside from current Church expenses and local charities, than was raised for the same object in all the previous eighteen centuries.

The most powerful factor in the civilization of the world, and the elevation of the human race, is the Christian religion. The pure morality of the teachings of the Christ, and their beauty reflected on the ages for nearly two thousand years, from his life and conduct among men, has changed the whole nature and purpose of the human race. Every man, says La Cordaire, is born into the world with three shells around him—ignorance, superstition, selfishness; and it was left for the Gospel of the

Christ to break all of them, and dispel the dark clouds which for centuries enveloped the human family and stupefied the human race. As a result, human life is larger, longer, better, and every day happier; and with it has come a clearer and broader comprehension of the rights and duties of man. He has come to understand that the humblest individual has the same claims to life and liberty and the pursuit of happiness as the king upon his throne; and this subtle and potent influence is overthrowing despotisms, breaking the chains of slavery, and sapping the very foundations of tyranny and oppression. I say to-night, without fear of successful contradiction, that there is no culture which has so touched man on every side and has so universally bettered his condition, as Christian culture; and there is no power so potent for good among all classes and nations as the teachings of Christ's Gospel.

I am aware that the learned skeptics and the highly cultivated scientists, in attempting to write the history of civilization, give to other causes the credit for human development. But these theories will not stand the test of fair and honest investigation. The history of the Anglo-Saxon race is positive proof of the incorrectness of this alleged scientific claim. The impartial historian of the human race, if he have an honest desire to ascertain the mysterious forces which awaken the human mind to even a feeble conception of its powers, and continues to arouse it to a wider range of vision, must give to Christianity the first and foremost place. Impress upon the benighted mind of the barbarian, on the feeble intellect of the child, that God is the father of all, and has stamped his own divine image upon every soul; and that the infinite and boundless love of the All-Father goes out to all his children; that all alike are in a sense equal to him; and that this life is but preparatory to the better one beyond—and then you have the very starting point on the highway of human progress. The fool may say in his heart that there is no God, but such folly does not arrest the forward march of truth. As generations come and go, the dial-plate of human progress records all the advances that have been made. The motive power and elevating force that is unquestionably thus lifting the human race to a higher plane, is the Christian religion.

My countrymen, the power of the Gospel has broken, link after link, the chains of ignorance, superstition and selfishness,



and the most enlightened of all lands are now beginning to walk erect in the true dignity of the freed and disenthralled. There are those who would snuff out the flaming torch that has lighted our pathways for two thousand years, and would relegate us to the benighted ways our people trod before John Baptist cried in the wilderness that their paths should be made straight; but they are few, and their ranks, thank God, are lessening every year. The evidence is overwhelming and conclusive that the motive power of all human advancement is found in the teachings of the Christ, and that he who would rob the world of that light is the enemy of his own soul and an open foe to the best interests of his fellow man.

I am, my friends, one of those who believe that the world is growing better instead of worse. There are more men and women now engaged in the world's salvation, in proportion to population, than ever before; and this army has not only increased in numbers, but it has also increased in efficiency and power. These are stirring times in which God has called us into being. Religious sentiment has a deeper hold upon the American people to-day than it has ever had. The Churches that are its exponents hold still more and wider power, and are always to be reckoned in the administration of public affairs. The time has passed when public men in the United States, venture by policy or by measure, to affront the religious sense of their constituents. The Churches, more than ever before, are cultivating an absolute catholicity of spirit; are caring more and more for the welfare of the poorer classes; are utilizing the organized agency of woman in the religious and benevolent activities, which are the charm and glory of our civilization; and the bringing into line of active workers, the young men and women of the various evangelical churches. With this broadening of the field of labor, and the enlistment of all these new forces, all toiling for the same end, and impelled by the same spirit, I cannot be mistaken when I say that there is a better day coming bye and bye. We look into the future and hail the coming of the morn, radiant and effulgent, when the waves of the sea will become the chrysalis of a grand organ on which the fingers of everlasting joy will peal the grand march of a world redeemed to God.

God moves through the ages by epochs and eras. The last quarter of the century which is now grandly rolling out, has

become epochal by the organization of young people's societies for aggressive Christian activity. In the providence of God, the time was ripe for this tremendous event in Church history. The growth of young people's societies has been nothing short of phenomenal. There are now in the neighborhood of five million members of the young people's societies of our evangelical Churches, nearly one-half of which is made up of the Epworth Leagues of the Methodist Churches of this Continent. The most of these workers are between the ages of fifteen and thirty years. The entire population of the country between those ages is, in round numbers, eighteen millions. That is to say, one fourth of our population belongs to positively aggressive religious societies of the orthodox Churches, to say nothing of the young Catholics and other young people in the land who also live for high and noble purposes. The relationship of this vast Christian army of young people to good citizenship can scarcely be estimated. The purpose and object of the Epworth League is "to promote intelligent and loyal piety in the young members and friends of the Church, to aid them in religious development, and to train them in the works of mercy and help." Such training therefore is in the direct line of patriotism and good citizenship. The moral man is a good citizen, the Christian man is better; therefore the Christian man is the ideal citizen,—one who will ever stand for justice and the right, and for the best interests of his fellow man.

My fellow citizens, what marvelous headway these young Christians are making! When the Crusaders were on their way to Jerusalem to rescue the Sacred Tomb from the ignorant and unrighteous Turks, their watch-cry was, "It is the will of God." To-night, as this mighty League throng is marching on, to rescue an unrighteous world from sin and ungodliness, their watch-cry is that of the Crusaders, "It is the will of God;" and by this sign they will conquer.

A few years ago I stood out yonder at the Golden Gate beside the sighing sea. Not knowing the hour, and standing but a few moments, I could not tell whether the tide was going out or coming in. Standing a little while longer, I observed the surging waves coming rolling in until they would strike the beach, break asunder, and recede again, foaming, seething, white-capped, back to their home in the mighty deep. Stand-

ing a little while longer, I observed that each successive wave which struck the beach, climbed higher and still higher upon the sands along the shore. Then I knew that the tide of the mighty, grand, majestic blue, Pacific ocean was coming in and was not going out. So, standing here to-night upon this vantage ground of truth, and looking out over our great country—the freest and best beneath the stars—I say with emphasis and with a faith which cannot be shaken, that the great tide of public sentiment, with reference to the ultimate regeneration of the world, is coming in and is not going out.

This young people's organization, represented here to-night, my friends, is not only producing good citizens by their work, but they are also producing a generation of Church members who, instead of having one out of ten who is actively religious, as is now the case, all shall be thorough, consecrated workers for the Master, and anointed with Pentacostal power.

They will also become the world's leaders of thought. While others give themselves to frivolous amusements, these devote their leisure to the mastery of courses of study, to literary culture, and practice in the art of putting things. They listen to lectures, debate great questions, think great thoughts, act noble parts; and in life's great drama, they play the roll of being somebody. Such young men and women are not to be ciphers, but digits—every one standing for something, if standing alone.

They propose also to follow the great Head of the Church in His plan of reaching the multitudes by helping them. The success of the Christ in reaching the masses, unquestionably lay in His divinely unselfish sincerity. La Cordaire, the great French divine, says: "Love is the immolation of self upon the altar of its object. Whosoever has not been thus immolated, has never loved." Convince the people that you love them, and you can lead them. Convince the people that you can and do sympathize with them in all of their besetments in life, and you can draw them to you and lift them to higher heights of intelligence, good morals and religion. Sympathy gave Shakespeare his marvellous power over men. Sympathy and love are the mighty, unseen powers that will ultimately regenerate the world. (The speaker here gave illustrations of the wonderful power of sympathy.)

Notwithstanding the seriousness of their high calling, these young people of the Epworth League, are doing much to reform



society, so called, by showing the world that supreme enjoyment, that the most intense realization of what the world is so ardently and at such great expense of time and money, but so fruitlessly seeking in dangerous and demoralizing pastimes, can only be experienced by the pure in heart. They are showing the world how to have "a good time" without compromise of character and morals. Nay, they are proving to the world that they only laugh well whose merry hearts have in them no foundation stones for a temple of remorse. They have their amusements. Their pleasures are already becoming so manifest that it is getting popular to be righteous for the sake of the satisfaction of righteousness. They are going to hasten the day when "good society" will be the society of the good, and in the fulness of time this will come. There can be no question as to who is to win in this society race. At any time, we can safely put the intelligence and character of these Christian young men and young women, who lead clean lives and improve themselves mentally and morally, against the reckless and dissipating crowds that aim at nothing but nonsense and hit nothing but filth.

Yes, my friends, the Christian young people of this broad land of ours are going to be ideal citizens. They are preparing themselves for taking a controlling part in politics. By combining to form a balance of power, they can, in a large degree, dictate the course of events, requiring the office to seek the man, and not the man the office, as is largely the case now; securing much needed reforms, and relegating corrupt tricksters and scheming manipulators to the limbo of musty history where such classes of right ought to be entombed out of sight for ever. The great need of our country to-day, my fellow citizens, is unselfish patriotism—a kind that will create a rival in the direction I have indicated, by being on hand at the primaries, and then do its shouting at the ballot-box.

These are the kind of citizens this organization is making, and they will take a mighty hand in the years that are to come. They can be relied upon for patriotism. They will stand by the Constitution and the Flag. They will stand by their pastors and their Churches. They will stand by the Savior and the Cross. They will stand by the old ship Zion, as she plows the seas, bearing upon her prow the noble and glorious message of "Glory to God in the highest, on earth peace and good will to men."

(The speaker closed with an eloquent appeal for young and old alike to so live that their eternity may be spent in the better world beyond.)

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## DECORATION DAY ADDRESS.

*Of Governor George W. Atkinson, at Cameron, West Virginia.*

*May 30, 1898.*

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LADIES AND GENTLEMEN:—

So much has been so well said by the gentleman who has preceded me relative to the teachings of Decoration Day, that I will leave off much that I had intended to say. Suffice it to say, however, that I heartily indorse the observance of the day. It is well for the soldiers of the Union to gather once a year around the graves of their deceased comrades and sprinkle them over with flowers and tears.

Let me begin my remarks, my friends, by reciting before you a few stanzas from that beautiful poem entitled,

### “PLEDGE TO THE DEAD.”

“Where they roam on the slopes of the mountain  
That only by angels are trod;  
Where they muse by the crystalline fountain  
That springs in the garden of God.  
Are they lost in unspeakable splendor?  
Do they never look back and regret?  
Ah! the vallant are constant and tender,  
And honor can never forget.

“Divine is their pitying sadness,  
They will grieve for their comrades of earth,  
They will hear us and start into gladness,  
And echo the sounds of our mirth.  
They will raise their white hands in a blessing  
We shall know by the tear that it brings,  
The rapture of friendship confessing,  
With harps and the waving of wings.

“If the wind that sighs over our prairies  
No longer is solemn with knells,

But lovely with flowers and fairies,  
And sweet with the calm Sabbath bells;  
If virtue in cottage or palace,  
Leads love to the bridal of pride,  
'Tis because out of war's bitter chalice,  
Our heroes drank deeply and died.

"O! grander in doom-stricken glory  
Than the greatest that linger behind,  
They will live in perpetual story  
Who saved the last hope of mankind.  
For their cause was the cause of the races,  
That languished in slavery's night,  
And the death that was pale on their faces  
Has filled the whole world with its light.

"To the clouds and the mountains we breathe it,  
To the freedom of planet and star,  
Let the tempests of Ocean enwreath it,  
Let the winds of the night bear it far.  
Our oath—that 'till manhood shall perish  
And honor and virtue are spread,  
We are true to the cause that they cherish  
And eternally true to the dead."

Now, my friends, I know you will pardon me for philosophizing a little here to-day. For two hundred and fifty years an unceasing conflict has been going on between two ideas on this Continent. One of these ideas came to our shores on the "May Flower," and was planted by the Plymouth Rock settlement in Massachusetts. The other idea came on a Dutch ship, and was rooted in the Jamestown settlement in Virginia. One of these ideas was the God-given doctrine that all men ought to be free; that every man beneath God's stars ought to own himself, and walk erect in the dignity of free, untrammelled manhood. The other idea was the antipode of the one I have just stated. It taught not only that human slavery was not wrong, but it claimed that it was absolutely right. It proclaimed the doctrine that men might own their own fellow men, and that the strong might rule the weak as with a rod of iron. For two hundred years these separate thoughts or ideas were allowed to grow. The Plymouth Rock idea spread North and West until that entire stretch of country north of the Ohio river and as far west as the Rockies became permeated with the doctrine that God Almighty intended everybody to be free, and to own himself, and to do as he pleased as long as he pleased to do right.

The Jamestown idea followed the Ohio river towards the West and the Mississippi to the South, weaving its web into the natures and lives of the people until its work was so completely



done that a thousand years will not wipe it out of the lives and memories of the people in the perpetual summer Southland of the Republic.

What has been the result thus far of the seed sown in these two Colonies? In 1860, we had upwards of forty million people in the United States. Nearly twenty-five million of them were given over in thought and education to the eternal justice of the Plymouth Rock idea, while about fifteen million stood out upon the Jamestown doctrine; and like the youthful Hannibal, who was taken by his father to the altar of his country and was made to swear eternal hostility to the Romans, so these Jamestown followers declared that they would all die before they would yield one iota of the old slavery doctrine of their fathers. Upon this doctrine of human slavery they resolved to stand, sink or swim, live or die, survive or perish. (Applause.)

All the while these thoughts or ideas were taking deeper root. Agitation only seemed to send the tap-roots deeper down into the natures of the people.

In 1844, the Methodist Episcopal Church divided North and South on this rock of human slavery—the Jamestown doctrine.

In 1860, the issue became political as never before, and the people in a National election were asked to pass upon the proposition of extending slavery into the Western Territories. They spoke; they said the Plymouth Rock idea was right and the Jamestown idea was wrong, and they elected Abraham Lincoln, the great rail-splitter of the West, to the Presidency of the Republic upon the platform of universal freedom. What then? The sword was unsheathed, and the clanking of musketry could be heard from Fort Sumter to Bunker Hill monument, in the "Old Bay State." (Loud applause.)

Do you say to-day that there was no cause for our civil war? The crisis came,—the shackles were broken from the wrists of four million bondsmen, and they were made free. Who did it? God did it; but you soldiers were the instruments He used to do His work. He always uses humanity for the furtherance of His purposes. You shot to death the Jamestown idea, and amid the flaming rafters of the Southern Confederacy, human slavery was burnt into ashes, and the ashes were scattered to the four winds of the earth; and thank God to-day there can nowhere be found beneath the shadow of our flag the foot-print of a single slave. (Applause.)

I have not time to develop this argument further. All I will add is this: Where your work by your bayonets, and swords, and guns was left off, education and religion came in and took up the cause; and in the fullness of time, the work of the war will be completed when all men, white and black, are raised to the exalted plane of intelligent Christian manhood and intelligent Christian womanhood.

One thing, I think all will agree, was settled by the war, and that is that no rule or ruin party can ever have a healthy existence in the United States of America. The Southern people tried that doctrine when President Lincoln was elected. They said then, we will not submit. We will ruin the country, if we are not allowed to rule it. But they were the ones that got ruined. The Anarchists say they will blow us up. We will blow them up.

The Pilgrims before they landed at Plymouth Rock, knelt on the bow of the May Flower, and took a vow called "The Pilgrim Covenant," which was that the will of the majority honestly expressed, should be the law by which they were to be governed in all that they were to undertake. Since then, the will of the majority in this free land is the law, and it will always be so.

The war also settled two other things which I will briefly notice: First, that labor is of God; that it is right for men to engage in honest toil, and that no badge of dishonor shall ever again rest upon labor in this government of our fathers. Second, that popular government is not only possible, but it is real and abiding and strong. The self-control of our half million citizen soldiers, when they came home from the war, and resumed their various avocations, demonstrated to all the world that government of the people, for the people, by the people was an assured fact on this Continent of our Fathers. (Applause.)

A few words more in conclusion: While in New York a short time ago, I saw in Central Park one of the obelisks of Cleopatra, which, a few years since, was removed at great cost from Alexandria in Egypt to that imperial city of our New World. As I looked upon its strange hieroglyphics, I said to myself, this obelisk for two thousand years was a silent witness to the rise and fall of Lower Egypt. It has seen the Cæsars, the Pharaohs, the Ptolmies, the Moslems, the Greeks, and the Romans

pass its base, and pause and look upon its strange records. Those old nations were rich, and learned, and great, but they represented aristocracy and oligarchy, and not liberty. They have all gone, and the obelisk stands on a new Continent and looks down upon a new civilization. Beneath its shadow we Americans are working out a new destiny based upon a new idea. Our dead citizen soldiers are so many silent sentinels, like the Central Park obelisk to the doctrine of liberty based upon free government and free institutions. Upon their tombs we look and read a record of liberty that has a destiny of glory yet to reach, and the soldiers, living and dead, must share largely in that glory. (Applause.)

Fellow-citizens, "let us not believe in death, but in immortality; let us believe that to our dead soldiers has been given such places as suit the full-grown energies of heaven; let us believe that nothing can ever bereave them of the records they made here, and that they are now something far advanced in state, and that they wear a brighter crown than man can ever weave them." (Continued applause.)

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## PRESENTING FLAG.

*Address of Governor G. W. Atkinson, at Charleston, in Presenting a Flag to a Company of Colored Soldiers, who Volunteered in the War against Spain.*

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*July 19, 1898.*

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### SOLDIERS OF THE REPUBLIC:—

In my judgment the United States is the flagship of the world, and this is her flag. I have been requested to present it to you, in the name of a few of the liberty-loving people of this city, and we place it in your keeping. We expect you to carry it to the front, and we know that you will not allow it to be insulted or trailed in the dust. Its intrinsic value is not great, although it cost its donors no insignificant sum. Its greatest value is in



what it represents. It represents the freest Nation beneath the stars. It represents a Nation of men and women who love liberty, without regard to race, color or condition. It represents a united country also. We think it represents the richest and most progressive Nation on God's foot-stool. In its contiguous, arable territory; in the richness of its soil; in its climatic conditions; in its mineral resources; in the variety and extent of its timber; in its soil and gas; in its hills and vales and its unsurpassed scenery; in its coast-lines and water-ways; in its improved means of transportation; in its educational facilities and its high regard for the spiritual and the divine; in the genius of its people and their marvelous growth and greatness,—in all these, and more, this Nation of ours stands unprecedented and unparalleled; and this is why I say to you to-night that these stars and stripes are honored by every government on the earth, except Spain; and before "Uncle Sam" gets through with her, her subjects will uncover and will be glad to reverently bow their heads beneath its shadow, and kiss the hand that smote her. Before they get done with our army and our navy, they will wish that Columbus had never discovered this continent; aye more, they will wish that they never had been born. They will escape happily if our "Uncle Samuel" does not spit on them and drown them. History will congratulate the human race on the mindless folly of Spain. She was a fool to go to war with the United States at all; she is twice a fool to persist in hostilities from which she alone can suffer. But the longer the war lasts, the better it will be for the world, since each day of its prolongation means a gain for liberty and the betterment of the human race. We will welcome peace, but not until Spain is conquered and the hamstrings of tyranny are hopelessly severed forever. (Loud applause.)

My countrymen, it is a great thing to be a soldier in an army like ours. We are not in this contest for greed or gain. We are warring for principle; we are warring for the right, and we are warring for the weak and the helpless against the strong. We not only stand for the liberties which we ourselves enjoy, but in this contest we have proclaimed in thunder tones which are encircling the globe to-night, that no longer shall tyranny be tolerated on the Continent we love. Humanity demands that Spain must withdraw from the New World in everlasting disgrace. More than that, this reign of a new humanity de-

mands that the Empire of Spain should be wiped off the map of the world, and sooner or later she will go. The time has gone by forever when bigoted monarchs and rulers, backed by illiterate and ignorant subjects, like the majority of the Spaniards, can starve into subjection the people of their provinces, when God's laws and the laws of the just everywhere tell them that they should be free. They will be free. The United States has said it, and it will be done. Before you return this flag, which I present you to-night, Cuba will be free. Puerto Rico will be free. The Phillipines will be free. The Cape Verde Islands will be free, and our National Banner will wave above them all. They will be ours as trophies of this war, but they will be free. This flag waves to-night over the Hawaiian Islands, and it will never be lowered except by American hands. It will hereafter be our business, as a Government, to see to it that all of the Islands I have mentioned, have free and stable Governments, and it will be done. You need have no fears about that, my friends.

You are colored men, but you are Americans. The color of your faces does not affect the loyalty of your hearts. The prayers of our people will follow you to the front, and may God bless you in your fight for the right. This flag is the priceless possession of all the earth, wherever men strive to be free. It is your flag. Take it and protect it though the heavens fall. (Loud and prolonged cheers.)

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## ADDRESS

*of Governor G. W. Atkinson, LL. D., in Presenting a United States Flag to the 2nd Regiment of West Virginia Volunteers, at Charleston.*

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*August 6, 1898.*

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SOLDIERS OF THE 2ND REGIMENT W. VA. INFANTRY VOLUNTEERS:—

This is an auspicious occasion. You are soldiers who have volunteered to defend our Flag and our Constitution against a foreign foe. You are patriots, and the world will record you

such. The valiant deeds of a soldier never die. If you, on the battle-field are brave and true, you will be rewarded for your acts, and your achievements will go into history. Do not forget, my countrymen, that the people of this great Republic will not fail to reward their soldiers for their every act of heroism and valor.

The achievements of the American armies, my friends, are of the most glorious character from the days of the Declaration of Independence to the present. They illustrate the courage, endurance, and loyalty of the distinctive American citizen. They show to all the world what an intelligent, educated, conscientious class of people can do. Naturally we feel proud of the success of our armies; and when we consider results, we are struck with wonder over the exhibition of the rare qualities of our army and navy whenever called forth by the strenuous conditions that surround them. In the present war with Spain, we have every reason to be proud of our fellow-citizens in arms. They have added new glory to the American name. They have met and overcome the difficulties which stood in their way and our Country is now content to enjoy to the full these recent splendid exhibitions of American manhood. We are Anglo-Saxons, and they are the greatest race that has yet inhabited this globe. History tells us that the Anglo-Saxons have never been defeated in war, and I do not believe that they ever will be defeated. They are an educated, brainy race, and no one can deny that "knowledge is power." Even mortar, my friends, is better when mixed with brains.

There is a time, my countrymen, for war and a time for peace. Both cannot exist at the same time. War is pitiless, and strikes to hurt. Pity is not for the enemy until he is conquered. I said, a few days ago, in this city, in presenting a flag to a company of volunteers in the present war with Spain, that Spain was a fool to allow this war to begin, and that she is a double fool to allow it to continue. I desire to reiterate that statement to-day. She seems very recently to have caught the force of this idea, and I hope she will profit by it. The Spaniard is brave, but he is at the same time a blow-hard and a braggart. We waste time when we parley with him for peace. The only way to settle him is with bayonet, bullet and sword. The proper way to dispose of him is to unhorse him, and set our heel upon his esophagus. When he is down, he will squeal, but



not before. The best way to treat him is to squeeze him until he squeals. He is squealing now, but he will squeal louder before "Uncle Sam" lets loose his grip. The fool-hardy Spaniards began this war—let them get out of it the best way they can. It is their funeral, not ours. They will whine pitifully before we forget "The Maine." (Applause.)

I feel like the little boy who had a fashion of unduly scratching his head. His mother told him one day that she was going to entertain company at her home, and the urchin therefore must promise her not to scratch his head, and especially at the dinner table. The boy held out the best he could as to his promise, but broke over at last. His mother took him to task for his head-scratching, and his defense was, "*Mother, they began on me first.*" So it is with Spain in the present war. They begun a war on us when they blew up the "Maine," and killed, outright, 256 of our unsuspecting sailors. Before we get done with Spain for that awful crime, we will puncture her old hide so full of holes that it won't hold "shucks." (Loud laughter and applause.)

From the opening of this war to the present, our army and navy have had one continuous line of victories. These victories excel the hulling at Lissa. They put the battle of the Yalu in the shade. There is more drama in them, there are episodes more spectacular, and incidents more sensational than in any engagements since the battles of Thermopylæ and Trafalgar. As achievements, they are unequaled; as results, unexceeded, and as chapters in modern warfare, they will thrill generations to be. (Applause.)

The Spaniards cannot shoot. At best they can only "riddle the sea," while every time an American cannon goes off, a Spanish ship goes down into the sea, or on land a Spaniard bites the dust. Before this war is over, their Blancos and Cerveras and Weylers and Sagastas will have learned some sense. They will have learned by experience what they should have learned from history and current events, that a buz-saw is dangerous, and that an educated Nation of Anglo-Saxon patriots, cannot be defeated by wind or threats or bravado, or by mustard-seed shot. Why, my countrymen, their best gunners cannot even hit a flock of barn-doors fifty paces distant. Their shooting is a burlesque on modern gunnery. In this respect they are the laughing stock of the civilized world. (Laughter.)

But, my friends, the world must live and learn. A burnt child dreads a fire. A fool never sits down on a red-hot stove but once. Blanco telegraphed Sagasta that he could capture Washington with ten thousand Spanish soldiers. The old fool does not seem to know that the women and the children of that city could drive him and his ten thousand in disgrace from our capital with broom-sticks and boulders, to say nothing of the backing they would have from the "Metropolitan police," and everybody knows that they are not specially dangerous, or overcharged with energy. But I must not dwell here. (Laughter.)

My countrymen, I have been requested by the patriotic ladies of Charleston, to present our Second regiment of West Virginia volunteers with this splendid stand of "colors." No regiment in the service will have a superior outfit—because these flags are as fine as money can buy. You are patriots, and the donors of these flags are also patriots. It is true that they are women; but the women and the children are much the better part of the human race. You old male fossils know that this statement is true. (Laughter.)

These Charleston ladies do not class themselves with Semiramis and Zenobia, who wrote their names in blood; nor with Aspasia who corrupted Athens and made Greece drunk with the wine of her sensuous charms; nor with Cleopatra, Egypt's beautiful and the world's shameless courtesan;—nay, none of these, famous through their unwomanliness and infamy, as the illustrators of the glory of their sex. None of these typed American women are represented among the donors of these flags. Their type of womanhood is of that truer and better character which is represented in history by Penelope, weaving amid her maidens through weary years, the web that sheltered her virtue, until her royal husband returned from his wanderings and wars to gladden her waiting heart; or courteous Rebecca at the well; or timid Ruth gleaning in the field; or nobler still, the Roman Cornelia, who, taunted in Rome's decaying age by rivals with her poverty, held up her virtuous children exclaiming, "These are my jewels!" Fit woman to have been the mother of the Gracchi, and like whom had all Roman mothers been, Rome might to this day have boasted an unbroken progeny of heroes. These, my countrymen, are the types of women that West Virginia produces, and we need not therefore wonder at the stamina

and manhood of our West Virginia troops, than whom no better and braver men ever leveled a musket or unsheathed a sword. (Applause.)

In the name of the good women of Charleston, I hand these flags over to you, and in their names, and in God's name, I beg of you to not allow any one to lower them except yourselves. It is our flag—your flag; and may God Almighty grant that it may never be made to kiss the dust while it is in your keeping.

Proud flag of the free, the fair light of thy glory,  
Hath spread over earth, unbecclouded and free;  
And the pride of her song and the boast of her story  
Hath something to tell of thy banner and thee;  
This banner hath waved in the fight of past ages,  
When thy champions battled on America's plain;  
And whenever oppression's fierce violence rages,  
This banner shall wave in red triumph again,  
Then hail to thy banner, and hail to thy spear,  
Unrusted by time, and unshaken by fear.

Nor above when the angel of wrath poured his vial,  
And Nations to battle marched proudly from far,  
Has thy worth been approved thro' each various trial,  
Benignant in peace, as undaunted in war;  
Thou hast guarded the weak, and consoled the forsaken,  
Who wept in despair till thy charity came;  
And gratitude never more warmly did waken  
Her song, than when echo resounded thy name,  
Then hail to thy beauty, hail to thy glory,  
And let memory cherish them both in her story,

Let us, my fellow citizens, not forget that generations of men and women may come and go, and follow one another as do the billows on the ocean's crest, rising in their majestic form, crystal-crowned, only to fall and be dashed to pieces upon the rocks along the shore; but let us remember forever that the acts of our true heroes never die.

When the Buddhists, as they aimed to do, reformed the Brahmin faith, they laid down six transcendent virtues—alms, morals, science, energy, patience and charity. These were their stepping stones to eternal repose. A thousand years later Constantine espied the flaming Cross in the midday sky, and while that emblem of faith has been carried in triumph to every civilized spot upon this globe, our struggles toward a higher and better estate upon the earth are opening the door upon the future, so that all of us, if we desire, may see within. Let us thank God, my friends, for this unrestricted vision; and let us pledge ourselves anew to rear to these patriots of ours this flag of State, until its towering monument shall catch the first rays of



the rising, and the last rays of the setting sun. [The regiment saluted the Governor, and gave three cheers in ringing tones.]

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## REMARKS

*of Governor Atkinson, in Presenting a Sword to Capt. J. M. Burns, of the 17th Reg't. U. S. Infantry at Charleston, West Virginia.*

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*August 15, 1898.*

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CAPTAIN BURNS:—

I have a few words to say to you as the mustering officer of this regiment, (2nd West Virginia Volunteers) as it now stands in review before us. We, as West Virginians, are naturally proud of this regiment, because of the splendid *personnel* of both its officers and men; and we regard you as the father of the regiment, because you, as the mustering officer of the United States Government, have administered the oath of allegiance to every one of these men, who now stand uncovered in our presence. You required each of them to declare with an uplifted hand that his sword should be drawn and his musket should be leveled in the defense of his country and her flag.

You, my dear Captain, have been universally courteous and kind to these officers and men, and the officers have selected me to assure you of their appreciation of you and your methods as a soldier in our regular army.

I have read history in vain, my dear Captain, if it does not teach, in unmistakable language, that true merit is always appreciated, and is always rewarded. It sometimes comes slow, but it comes at last to those who are really deserving. You are an old soldier, and being such you know how to treat your men. I am aware of the fact that on their own merits modest men are dumb. True men allow others to sound their praises. You have blown no trumpet of your own since you have been in the midst of these soldiers; and this is why all of

them admire you. George Eliot aptly said that "affection is the broadest basis of good in life," and she was forever right in that utterance. These officers and men have carefully timed your every movement here. You have been exemplary in all your acts; and this is why all of us have deep affection for you.

You, my dear sir, have been your own arbiter, and have won your way by merit, and not by any other pull. Napoleon when asked by the Emperor of Austria—his prospective father-in-law—to allow the publication of his great achievements as the foremost man of his times, and perhaps of all times, said: "I had rather be the descendant of an honest man than of any petty tyrant. I wish my nobility to commence with myself, and derive all my titles from the French people. I am the Rudolph of Hapsburg of my family. My patent of nobility dates from the battle of Montenotte." Like Napoleon, my brother, if you will pardon the illustration, you have derived your titles from the American people, and your patent of nobility comes directly from the people you have served. Your real patent to nobility lies in this one thing above all others, that God, your father and mine, moulded you a gentleman, when he fashioned you as a man. This is saying much, I know, but it is not saying too much, because I know whereof I speak. True merit has no necessary conjunction with praise. It may exist without the breath of a word. It is a recognition of excellence which must be felt, but need not be spoken. But withal, my brother, the world knows what true merit and true manhood are, and this is why we are assembled here to-day. Base envy withers at another's joy, and hates that excellence it cannot reach.

Capt. Burns, the officers of this, the second regiment of West Virginia Volunteers, have purchased this magnificent sword, and have asked me to hand it to you as a slight expression of their appreciation of your worth. You have been two months associated with them, and they ask me to say to you, for them, that these associations have been profitable and pleasant. They have enjoyed your goings in and out their camp on the banks of the majestic Kanawha which murmurs along in its meandering way to the sea.

Herodotus tells us that the ancient Scythians worshiped a bare sword as their God. We do not believe in that. We worship only the true and living God; but we worship the sword only as a weapon to be unsheathed when truth and justice

have been attacked. This sword is yours, by the will of these officers, and I know you will wield it in the defense of liberty and the right. It is yours for yourself and your posterity forever, and in your keeping, I am sure it will never be dishonored. In the name of its patriotic donors I now hand it to you.

## GILMER CO. SHARP-SHOOTERS.

*Governor Atkinson made God-Father of a Military Company of Soldiers in the Spanish War.*

CAMP ATKINSON,  
Charleston, West Virginia,  
August 15th, 1898.

TO HON. GEORGE W. ATKINSON,  
Governor of West Virginia,  
AND MRS. MYRA H. ATKINSON,  
Wife of the Governor of West Virginia.

We, the officers, non-commissioned officers and men of Co. "L," enlisted in the County of Gilmer, and town of Glenville, believing in your honor, virtue, integrity and patriotism, present compliments and request that you be a God-Father and God-Mother to this Company and give it a suitable name.

Signed:

1. D. U. O'Brien,	Capt.,	Glenville,	W. Va.
2. J. H. Martin,	1st Lieut.,	Charleston,	"
3. Chas. F. Sentz,	2nd Lieut.,	Hinton,	"
4. C. A. Stalnaker,	Serg't.,	Troy,	Gilmer Co.,
5. Hays Haymaker,	Serg't.,	Arnoldsburg,	Calhoun Co.,
6. Ona M. Ewing,		Glenville,	Gilmer
7. C. B. Chrisman,	Q.M.Serg.,		" " "
8. Warren Lewis,	Serg't.,	Conings,	" " "
9. Herbert A. Woofter,	"	Glenville,	" " "
10. Ralph Sommerville,	Cor.,	Auburn,	"
11. Willie P. Brannon,	"	Glenville,	"
12. Alfred B. Wright,		"	" " "



13.	R. J. Collins,	Buffalo,		W. Va.
14.	Clarence West,	Corp., Rosedale,		"
15.	J. E Paterson,	Linn,	Gilmer Co.,	"
16.	H. H. Berry,	Glenville,	" "	"
17.	Gail Fishback,	"	" "	"
18.	Robert E. Hays,	"		"
19.	Guy B. Young,	Corp., Troy,		"
20.	Pearley C. Norris,	" Cedarville,		"
21.	H. L. Ewing, Jr.,	Mus., Glenville,		"
22.	C. T. Bennett,	Artificer, Burnt House,		"
23.	V. W. Cox,	Wagoner, Glenville,		"
24.	J. L. Floyd,	Col. Guard,	"	"
25.	Willie Moneypenny,	Millstone,		"
26.	Preston Newell,	Millstone,		"
27.	L. B. Phillips,	Buckhannon,		"
28.	William Black,	Glenville,		"
29.	R. S. Rutherford,	Cedarville,		"
30.	Wm. Oldaker,	Auburn,		"
31.	Asa F. Ball,	Copen,		"
32.	Frank Cox,	Glenville,		"
33.	H. J. Watson,	Auburn,		"
34.	C. F. Riddel,	Tanner,		"
35.	Mirth D. Arnold,	Glenville,		"
36.	Leopold Mathe,	Pittsburg,		Pa.
37.	W. H. Pattessen,	Lima,		W. Va.
38.	M. O. Westfall,	Letter Gap,		"
39.	Otho Ford,	Glenville,		"
40.	Mallie Haynes,	Patrick,		"
41.	James Hopkins,	Creston,	Wirt Co.,	"
42.	Stephen P. Honaker,	Patrick,		"
43.	F. A. Weaver,	Tanners,		"
44.	C. A. Stasel,	Auburn,		"
45.	E. J. Shock,	Rosedale,		"
46.	P. C. Leake,	Teays,		"
47.	John L. Riddle,	Normantown,		"
48.	Austin J. Carnsfit,	Craggsville,		"
49.	William McCune,	Glenville,		"
50.	Jos. Horner,	"		"
51.	Otie J. McVey,	Hawksnest,		"
52.	J. L. Gill,	Eva,		"
53.	P. M. Mick,	Ellis,		"

54. Frank Miller,	Conings,	W. Va.
55. Homer A. Erven,	Newberne,	"
56. Pat. Vanbibber,	Enon,	"
57. W. F. Floyd,	Glenville,	"
58. H. E. Arbogast,	"	"
59. Walter Burton,	Leopold,     Doddridge Co.,	"
60. Pink Burton,	"	"
61. Mark. Springston,	Troy,	"
62. N. H. Patterson,	Linn,	"
63. George Riddle,	Troy,	"
64. Raymond E. Gough,	Glenville,	"
65. H. H. Williams,	Lettergapp,	"
66. Dan. Taylor,	Napier,	"
67. John Taylor,	"	"
68. F. M. Williams,	Knawl,	"
69. C. F. Greene,	Burnsville,	"
70. Frank Cather,	Glenville,	"
71. Hornor Powell,	"	"
72. O. J. Gaines,	Tanners,	"
73. Jas. H. Shock,	Rosedale,	"
74. Francisco Stump,	Glenville,	"
75. M. M. Skinner,	"	"
76. J. C. Moneypenny,	Conings,	"
77. Clinton Williams,	Auburn,	"
78. Robt. Hathaway,	Sycamore,	"
79. A. J. Osborn,	Alice,	"
80. Eugene Crites,	Auburn,	"
81. Levi Swiger,	Burnsville,	"
82. A. W. Adams,	Auburn,	"
83. Calvery Thompson,	Hurricane,	"
84. M. B. Elliott,	Burnt House,	"
85. H. W. Bush,	Rosedale,	"
86. Matthew Spencer,	Frankford,	"
87. Newt. M. Woofter,	DeKalb,	"
88. Geo. R. Lynch,	Glenville,	"
89. A. J. Kerns,	Tanner,	"
90. Worthy Poling,	Millstone,	"
91. Albert Poling,	"	"
92. Allen Nichols,	"	"
93. C. A. Isenhardt,	"	"
94. F. H. Johnson,	Glenville,	"

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95. Robert F. Woodyard,	Glenville,	W. Va.
96. French Springston,	"	"
97. F. W. Cuppett,	Terra Alta,	"
98. J. W. Gilbert,	St. Albans,	"
99. Ernest W. Floyd,	Glenville,	"
100. Elam Chrislip,	Auburn,	"
101. J. L. Chrislip,	Troy,	"
102. T. C. Chrislip,	"	"
103. L. A. Coffman,	Richlands,	"
104. E. E. Brown,	Auburn,	"
105. J. D. W. Jones, Corp.,	Glenville,	"
106. John Sprouse,	"	"
107. C. W. Cox,	"	"
108. W. S. Osborne,	Alice,	"
109. Gus. Shoup,	Butler,	Butler Co., Pa.

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## GOVERNOR ATKINSON'S RESPONSE.

STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA,

EXECUTIVE CHAMBER,

CHARLESTON, August 16, 1898.

Captain D. U. O'Brien and others,

Officers and Members of

Co. "L", 2nd Regiment W. Va. Vol. Inf.,

"Camp Atkinson",

GENTLEMEN:—

I acknowledge receipt of your courteous request that my wife and I may become god-mother and god-father of your company, and that we name the same. Replying to your petition, we beg to say that we most cheerfully accept the proffered honor, and name Company "L" "The Gilmer County Sharpshooters."

Knowing personally all of the officers and a goodly number of the private soldiers of your company, we are free to say that no better equipped company in both officers and men can be found in the volunteer army in the war with Spain. We are therefore safe in saying in advance of any active service by your company and regiment, that you, when the emergency times may come, will honor yourselves, your county and your State.



In bivouac or in battle, you will have our prayers for your protection, and for your safe return to your homes and your fire-sides. May God's best blessings always attend you.

Sincerely and truly your friends,

GEO. W. ATKINSON,  
MYRA H. ATKINSON.

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## IRRIGATION.

*West Virginia's Governor Advocates the Reclamation of Arid America by Irrigation. Landenough for Generations Yet to Come.*

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*August 20, 1898.*

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(From The National Advocate, Oct. 1898.)

"Every wise man agrees that beyond the Mississippi lies the great wealth of the days to come. In the development of this wealth we are all interested, and we in the East are not the unwise men to believe that we are not concerned in the progress and future of the West.

"HON. THOMAS B. REED,  
"Speaker of the House of Representatives."

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STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA,  
EXECUTIVE CHAMBER,  
CHARLESTON, August 20, 1898.

Mr. George H. Maxwell, San Francisco, Cal.

MY DEAR SIR: I desire to say, with emphasis, that I am in sympathy with your efforts to reclaim the arid territory of our great Republic by irrigation. I have traveled over millions of acres of our domain which are practically worthless for want of water. There is no shortage of water, but there is a shortage in its distribution. Nature supplies a sufficiency of water, but it is left for us to see that it is properly distributed. You are

doing the duty of a public benefactor in giving your best efforts to reclaim our waste territory.

I agree with Speaker Reed, when he said: "Every wise man agrees that beyond the Mississippi lies the great wealth of the days to come." No intelligent American can question the correctness of that statement. The Mississippi Valley will ultimately be the granary of the Nation, because the arid fields west of that great water-course will some day "blossom as the rose" as a result of irrigation. Artificial water channels will produce forests with their attendant means of civilization, railways, telegraph lines, etc., which will be followed by rainfalls that will bring settlers who will plow the ground and in this way aid nature to pour her waters upon the country and the people.

If our arid lands can be reclaimed, we can, for generations to come, subsist all of our people upon them, and still have land to spare. This, in itself, should command the attention of our people; and it will, if you will stick to them, as I believe you are willing to do.

I have appointed delegates to the Irrigation Congress, and have reason to believe that some of them will attend. I have personally urged upon them the importance of giving attention to this great movement, so that my State may have some share in its great consummation.

I have the honor to be,

Your most obedient servant,

GEO. W. ATKINSON,

Governor of West Va.

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## SERGEANT HARRY MORGAN'S FUNERAL.

STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA,

EXECUTIVE CHIEF,

CHARLESTON, Sept. 1, 1898.

TO THE CITIZENS OF CHARLESTON:—

Sergeant Harry Morgan of the First West Virginia Volunteer Infantry is dead, and will be buried at five o'clock this afternoon from the Kanawha Presbyterian Church. Sergeant Morgan is the first soldier of our West Virginia troops from this

section, in the present war, who has thus far departed this life. He offered his services to his Country in the war with Spain. He died a patriot's death. He is entitled to great consideration at the hands of our people. He should have a State funeral. This is impossible to carry out for want of time. It is due to him that the patriotic people of this city should attend his funeral this afternoon. I wish it were possible for the Grand Army Post and the Confederate Camp of Charleston to attend as bodies. It is proper that the business houses should close during the funeral hour. I hope this will be done. The State and City officials will attend as bodies. Our people knew Sergeant Morgan, and all of them respected him in life. Now that he is dead, I hope they will attend his funeral at five o'clock this afternoon, as he gave his young life to the country he loved.

G. W. ATKINSON,  
Governor.

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## ADDRESS

*of Governor G. W. Atkinson, at Wheeling, West Virginia, before  
the Ohio River Improvement Association.*

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*September 14, 1898.*

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(From the Wheeling Daily Intelligencer, Sept. 15, 1898.)

MR. PRESIDENT AND FELLOW CITIZENS:—

I feel very much like the late General N. P. Banks, of Massachusetts, at that time a member of the 51st Congress, when a consideration of the financial affairs of the country was before a caucus of the political party to which he belonged. Said he, "Mr. Chairman, I don't know anything about the money problem, and I therefore feel it to be my duty to make a speech upon the subject." I know very little about the great undertaking of locking and damming the Ohio river, and yet I, like General Banks, feel like saying a few words upon the subject.

It has been assigned to me, my friends, by the Chamber of Commerce of this city, to welcome the members of this Asso-



ciation and their friends to the city of Wheeling and the State of West Virginia. We are rejoiced to have you among us. Wheeling is well known all over this country, and the world for that matter, and for a generation or more she has been known, not only as a manufacturing city, but also as a city of enterprise and wealth. Just how the name of Wheeling originated none of us can tell; but all of us who reside here know that she never fails to *wheel* into line on every movement which tends to advance the interests of all classes and develop the intelligence and the resources of our great country. The only reason, my friends, why we have not grown into a great city, is because we had not enough level ground upon which to build it. For a half century we have kept in the swim of progress, and we are now only in the dawn of what we are yet to be.

Again I say, Mr. President, on behalf of all our people, I welcome the Ohio River Improvement Association as distinguished guests, and I assure you, gentlemen, that everything will be done on the part of our people, to make your stay pleasant and, I trust, profitable as well.

Mr. President, we have within West Virginia five hundred miles of navigable rivers, nearly two thousand miles of railroads, and no one can estimate the extent of our coal and coke and oil and gas and timber. It is the purpose of your organization to make the Ohio river, which washes the border of our State for three hundred miles, more navigable and more useful.

It is your aim, as an organization, by a system of locks and dams, to make this great natural artery of commerce a never failing public highway for heavy freights. The rivers of the Continent are the natural arteries through which the trade of the country is intended to pass; and it is therefore the duty of the people to improve these public highways in every way possible, because all classes of citizens will thereby be benefitted. I am glad that this Association of enterprising men was formed for the purpose of interesting the government of the United States in the improvement of this great water way.

It is believed by many, and I am one of them, that the Ohio Valley, in advantages and possibilities is the richest valley on the earth. In climate, in location, in soil, in coal, in iron, in salt, in oil, in gas, in timber, in water-power, in stone, and in enterprise, education and intelligence, it cannot easily be surpassed. To slack the water of this great river would very

soon cause it to be almost a continuous city of manufactures from Pittsburg to Cincinnati; and I hazard nothing when I say this will be done before another generation shall come and go.

I find, Mr. President, that the United States government has appropriated up to this time \$2,330,000.00 for the locking and damming of the Ohio river. Lock No. 1, known as "Davis Island Dam", a few miles below Pittsburg, was completed in 1885. Since that time \$1,330,000.00 has been appropriated by the General Government for the construction of locks 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6, which, when completed, will slack the water, from forty to fifty miles below Pittsburg. No work has been done upon any of these locks, except to secure the titles to the land, except upon lock No. 6. If when No. 6 is completed, it would seem to me not to be a mistake, but the course of wisdom, to locate a dam in the vicinity of this city, and thus afford a pool for the benefit of the manufacturing interests of Wheeling and neighboring towns; and, as a matter of course, work could be carried along upon the dams farther up the river, while the improvement is going on here. Locks 2, 3, 4, and 5 were skipped, and 6 was taken up, which affords a precedent, and it seems to me a sensible one, to next begin work upon a lock at Wheeling, and at the same time go on with the locks laid out above us. Now that the Government has taken hold of the work of improving this river in earnest, it should be pushed along with all possible speed.

The tonnage on the Ohio, even in its present condition, is very great. The lock-tender at the Davis Island dam reported for 1896, the passage up stream of 7,886 steamers and crafts, and down stream, 12,185, with a total tonnage of 3,811,759 tons of heavy freights. The entire tonnage upon the river, exclusive of rafts and loose freights, for the year 1896, amounted to 9,914,435 actual tons, while the passengers carried on the river for that year numbered 1,223,296. The construction of one dam, it is evident, has added greatly to the traffic of the river. With twenty or thirty more of these locks and dams, the freightage would probably double every year. It is great now, but it is only in the dawn of what it will be, under this system of improvements, in the years that are to come.

The Great Kanawha river, next to the Tennessee, the largest of the Ohio's tributaries, has been locked and dammed for one hundred miles. Before slack-water was introduced down there,

the commerce of that great valley, on the river, was comparatively insignificant. Now it has reached nearly one and a-half million tons per year on the river alone, and is steadily on the increase. The tonnage upon the two railroads in that valley is about double the freightage upon the river; but the cheap rates upon the river, keep the tariff down upon the railroads to the smallest possible rates for all westward commerce. There are ten locks and dams upon that river—all completed but one, and it is practically finished—which cost the Government, in round numbers \$4,000,000.00, and all business people will admit that this vast outlay is money well spent. Vast sums of money have been expended and are now being expended by "Uncle Sam" in all portions of our national domain upon our rivers, with the object of aiding in the development and improvement of the sections of country which they drain; and yet these great national improvements are still in their infancy.

The locking and damming of the Kanawha was begun in 1873, and will be entirely completed the present fall. The permanent improvement of the Ohio was begun in the early 80's, and let us hope that it will be completely finished within the next score, or twenty-five years at the farthest.

The first moveable dams in America, in connection with slack water improvement, were built on the Great Kanawha river in this State. The usefulness and adaptability of moveable dams have been thoroughly established. Moveable dams are kept up during low stages and down during high water. Their advantages over the ordinary fixed dams for a commerce and river like the Ohio are very decided, as they furnish the benefits of the usual slack water without its most serious inconveniences and drawbacks. With fixed dams everything must pass through the locks. With them navigation is entirely suspended when the river is near to or above the lock walls. The difference between the fixed and moveable dams in the scour and wash of the banks about the works, is also greatly in favor of the modern type.

With movable dams the locks are used only when the water in the river is so low as to make them necessary. At all other times the dams are kept lowered, practically on the river bottom and out of the way, affording unobstructed, open navigation. This is a great advantage to all classes of commerce and especially for coal, which is always shipped in fleets. More



barges can be transported by a towboat and much better time made in an open river than when it is made necessary to use the locks.

The gauge record of the Great Kanawha river for the last twenty years, shows an average of 196 days in the year when there is five feet of water for open navigation, and 142 days when the average is six feet or more. From this it appears that coal can be shipped by open river about six months in the year, during which time the moveable dams will be down and unused. The remainder of the year, or when the river falls below a coal-boat stage, the dams are kept up, which affords an average available slack water depth of six feet all the year.

It is well understood, Mr. President, that slack water transportation affords the cheapest possible freight rates, especially when the haul is of great length. The freight on coal from Pittsburg to New Orleans will not average over one-fifteenth of one cent per ton per mile. The coal barges, considering their cost and length of life, are cheap carriers. They cost from one to two thousand dollars each and last about ten years. One of these barges carry anywhere from 10,000 to 20,000 bushels, or from 400 to 700 tons of coal, which would be equal to a train of 25 to 30 cars of 20 tons each. In open navigation on the Big Kanawha, a towboat handles from four to fourteen loaded barges, depending, of course, on the stage of the river and the size of the towboat. In the Ohio River, from the mouth of the Kanawha down, the towboats take from 14 to 34 barges each. A fleet of 30 barges carries about 400,000 bushels, or about 16,000 tons, which, if loaded into 20 ton cars, would make 30 trains of 26 cars each, or a continuous line of cars nearly six miles long. I mention these facts simply to emphasize the importance of improving the navigation of the Ohio river in order to afford cheap freight rates, which will be an advantage to the consumer as well as to the producer, and will redound to the benefit of all the people.

The Ohio, my friends, is a National water way. As it sweeps past our homes in its meandering way to the sea, it does not tell of Pennsylvania, or Ohio, or West Virginia, or Kentucky, or Indiana, or Illinois. While, in a sense, it may sing a song of these great States; but above and beyond them all, it tells the story of a Nation united, of a country that all of us love, a country with one Constitution and one flag, a country of peace

and at peace with all the earth, a country with one aim and destiny, a country united and under God, one and indivisible now and forever.

And see the rivers how they run  
Through woods and meads, in shades and sun,  
Sometimes swift, sometimes slow—  
Wave succeeding wave, they go  
A various journey to the deep,  
Like human life to endless sleep.

Again I welcome you to Wheeling, and bid you God-speed in your work. (Applause.)

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## LAFAYETTE DAY.

*Views of Governor Atkinson relative to Lafayette Day.*

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STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA,  
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,  
CHARLESTON.

### A PROCLAMATION BY THE GOVERNOR.

It being proposed to signalize the participation of the United States in the Paris Exposition of 1900 by the erection in Paris in the name of the youth of the United States, of a monument to General LaFayette, the same to be unveiled and dedicated July fourth, United States Day, at the Exposition;

And it being proposed that the means necessary for the building of such a memorial shall be secured by popular contributions from the people of America, through the agency of the schools and colleges of the United States;

And to the end that the benefits of this work may fall largely to our children and young people, in the attraction of their minds to a study of the great historic characters and events of the early days of our Republic, I, George W. Atkinson, Governor of the State of West Virginia, do designate October 19th, 1898, as *LaFayette Day* in all the Schools of this State, public,

private and parochial, and that a portion of that day be devoted to exercises appropriate to the occasion and the story of our struggle for liberty told anew to our children.

[Seal.] Done at the City of Charleston, this 27th day  
of September, A.D., 1898, and in the thirty-fifth  
year of the State.

G. W. ATKINSON,  
Governor.

By the Governor:  
W. M. O. DAWSON,  
Secretary of State.

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## W. VA. SOLDIERS' MONUMENT.

*Oration of Governor G. W. Atkinson, LL. D. at the Dedication  
of the West Virginia Soldiers' Monument  
at Gettysburg, Pa.*

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*Sept. 28, 1898.*

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My countrymen, we come to-day to pay homage to the heroes of West Virginia who gave up their lives upon this historic battle-field. Herein this city of the dead, under the shadows of these trees where shot and shell once rained like hail, the State of West Virginia has erected these monuments we now consecrate to the memories of those whose bones are quietly reposing beneath the sward upon which the feet of living and loving friends are standing now. The State, by this mark of respect to a splendid manhood, honors itself. No granite or marble shaft, no tomb of ancient or modern splendor, and no play of genius immortal can adorn the memories of the soldiers who sleep upon the slopes of Gettysburg. Their deeds are their monuments which will keep their names enshrined in the hearts of patriotic men and women, that will endure for generations after the letters upon these granite rocks shall be dimmed by the rust and dust of the years which in God's good time shall come and go. The fidelity of the unswerving patriotism of these dead



soldiers, the unsullied characters they bore, and their undaunted courage, have written their names in enduring characters upon the brightest pages of immortal record.

These soldiers, my friends, were a type of that sterling manhood which wrought Virginia and the Nation. They were a noble representative of the type of men who won this, the foremost battle of our times and of all times. A nation is not made by constitutions or laws or systems or classes or creeds. It is made by men—men of intelligence, of courage, of industry, of loyalty to principle, of patriotism, of morals and of love. These constitute a State. These are the elements in men that make a government and bring deathless glory to its history. The men who sleep upon these slopes to-day, where weeping-willows kiss the sun and the gentle winds sing lullaby's unceasing, are the sort of men who make governments and nations that cannot be wrecked by internal shocks or external foes, but will endure through coming time—forever.

On this blood-red field of Gettysburg the soldiers of the Union held and kept the key to the Nation's life; the key that must unlock her immortal destiny in the aeons yet to come. They stood in the forefront of the nation's life, and enveloped in a storm of fire and death, fulfilled a mighty destiny. On this glad day and in this splendid presence, these dead heroes live again. On the most heroic page of history they breathe and move and live. They are immortal in the deep splendor of the flag that is crimsoned with their blood. They are incarnate in the hearts of our West Virginia people whose homes grace our hill-sides and mountain crests rock-ribbed and towering in the sunlight. Ay, my countrymen, they will live down through the centuries while history lasts, and until men cease to honor valor, which will never be while men and women live who reverence patriotism, manhood, courage and loyalty to principle and the right.

These times, my fellow citizens, in which we live are lively times. Men get recognition for what they do and are. A surprise like Dewey's, a victory like Schley's and Shafter's and Wheeler's, and a daring deed like Hobson's are noted by all the people and due credit is given to one and all. Men now do not have to scramble for the honors justly due them, as it was in the times of yore. If a patriot wins a victory or scuttles a ship, the masses climb over one another to honor him for his deed of valor or the victory he wins. It was not so at Salamis or

Thermopylae or Platea or Trafalgar, but it is so now; and it is right that it is thus. I rejoice that now-a-days our soldiers and sailors receive due credit for what they do, and they do not have to wait until they are dead to have their praises sung. Fresh flowers are strewn along their pathways while they live, and are not strewn alone upon their graves after they are gone. This is right—forever right. These soldiers whose memories we honor to-day fought, bled and died for principle, and our spirit of justice teaches us to perpetuate their memories by granite shafts, and by words of commendation which the people ought to heed.

The soldier of 1861 was the ideal soldier of all history. On more than one occasion I have done, as best I could, full justice to the men of all ranks who participated in that fratricidal conflict. There clusters around them a halo of enduring light. There is something in the men who heard the guns at Sumpter in their enormous reverberations, and appreciated in some measure the terrible importance of the awful shock, and hastened to accept the gage of war and meet the shock of battle. They did not enquire the rate of compensation or what pensions they were to receive. They shouldered their muskets as did the men at Lexington and Concord shouldered theirs, and marched with a purpose and determination as heroic as were the sacrifices of the men at Valley Forge and Yorktown and Bunkerhill. With our flag preserved, our country united, man liberated and God honored, this Imperial Nation will never cease to cherish the memories of these men.

It is not great wealth, it is not so-called royal blood, it is not learning or official position that makes true manhood. It is a life of noble deeds, of true merit, of unselfish devotion to the unseen and to family and home, and a walk and conversation void of offense that constitute true worth. These soldiers possessed many, if not all of these virtues, and this is why we add our tributes to their worth. They are no longer among the living, but our loss, we trust, has been their gain. They rest from their labors. They have gone to reap the reward of those who, while living, loved their country and their fellow men. With such all must be well, not only in this mortal life, but in the higher and nobler life beyond the tomb. Let us, my countrymen not forget that duty and death ennoble all men, and by their virtues our dead comrades have been ennobled and exalt-

ed beyond our ability to follow them. We are their witnesses. It is for us to tell the story of their deeds to the generations that shall follow. It is for us, upon every proper occasion, to speak their praises, and to commemorate in every appropriate way the virtues and sacrifices of the men who bore an honorable part, however conspicuous or obscure, in the day of our Country's greatest trial and of its supreme deliverance. A grateful Nation will hold them in cherished remembrance, and the example of their patriotism will ever remain the pride and emulation of their countrymen for generations to be.

The impressive lessons, my friends, that always find their way to honest hearts concerning life and duty, have been abundantly suggested and have found expression in the more expressive language of song and prayer and of Holy Scripture. No long exhortations can deepen or enhance what is borne in upon our souls so solemnly and affectingly. The spirit of duty stands at the head of one's bier and the spirit of love at its foot, and they point us to the noble dead as worthy to be leaders still along the paths of devoted and patriotic lives.

The older ages were distinguished by contrasting extremes of human character and destiny. God seemed not to care except for mighty men, and to use mankind as but a base soil out of which to grow heroes. We have now entered a new age, a second act in this drama of the Divine purposes. Now the word has gone forth from the Throne to "make a highway for the people." "Every mountain shall be made low and every valley shall be exalted," not to secure the level of mediocrity, but the grade of the sublime.

But, my friends, we have had another war since these soldiers fell. We Americans love peace, and while our war with Spain has cost us many lives and a vast amount of money, it is worth to the living all that it has cost. It has cemented our people in closer bonds of unison and love. In this war our greatest heroes came from the South as well as the North. While Captain Evans seemingly swore profanely, Captain Phillip prayed, and the people from Maine to Florida, in one glad acclaim cried "Amen". With 16,000 of our soldiers, under Shafter and Wheeler at Santiago, 24,000 Spanish prisoners were captured, which makes the ratio of American valor 16 to 24. A Spanish General telegraphed to Madrid, "We met the Americans and defeated them, but they persisted in fighting, and we were com-



pelled to retire from the field." West Virginia furnished two full regiments for the Spanish war, and our boys are broken-hearted because peace came before they could get to the front; and so it is all over our country. The great Republic could have furnished ten million warriors had their services been needed to defend our flag. These men went forth not for greed or gain, but to aid a suffering and oppressed race in their struggles for the liberties which we ourselves enjoy. All honor to these patriots! All honor to the South as well as to the North!

Once again the tents are standing  
In the shadows of the trees,  
And the banner waving o'er them  
Greets with joy the morning breeze;  
Aye, from ocean shore to ocean  
There's a blue, unbroken line,  
And the crests of the Palmetto  
Bend toward the crests of Pine.

No more strife between the sections,  
All is love and peace to-day;  
Gettysburg seems but a vision,  
And Bull Run is far away;  
Tramp, tramp, tramp, beneath "Old Glory"  
Comes a long, heroic line,  
And there meet above the muskets  
The Palmetto and the Pine.

On the plains of Chickamauga  
Camp our heroes side by side,  
And the starry flag is waving  
Where Columbia's children died;  
But united 'gainst oppression  
North and South their powers combine  
And the drum stirs the Palmetto  
And the bugle thrills the Pine.

Let the foeman who oppose us  
Read their doom on lines of steel;  
The oppressors of fair Cuba  
Shall Columbia's vengeance feel;  
She will crown the living victors,  
For the brave her hands will twine  
The Boughs of the Palmetto  
With the branches of the Pine.

And now, my countrymen, in the name and on behalf of the people of my State, I dedicate these monuments to the surviving soldiers of West Virginia in the war of the Rebellion, and to their children and their children's children forever. (Prolonged applause.)

My fellow citizens, I desire to return my thanks especially to the officers of the Seventh West Virginia Organization, and to

one and all who have rendered friendly aid in the construction of these enduring monuments. For their energy and enterprise in this great undertaking, they are entitled to enduring praise.

I thank you for your attention.

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## HISPANO-AMERICAN WAR.

*Governor Atkinson's Opinion of the Hispano-American War.*

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*November 9, 1898.*

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(From the Review of Reviews, December, 1898.)

ALBERT SHAW, ESQ.,

Editor "Review of Reviews",

No. 13 Astor Place,

New York.

MY DEAR SIR:

Replying to your courteous letter of the 7th inst., I will state my views briefly:

The results of the war with Spain cannot be other than gratifying to every American citizen. Our soldiers and seamen, on land and sea, have brought new glories to the great Republic. Our triumph in every engagement was beyond our expectations. We knew that our soldiers and seamen, and our people generally, in education and intelligence, and, indeed, in all that goes to make up real manhood, were far superior to the Spaniards. Still, it seems almost incredible that we should sweep them down in the manner that we did. The result of this war has given a wonderful uplift to humanity everywhere. The great Nations of the world must, of necessity, hereafter have greater respect for their subjects, and must yield to them broader liberties. The trend of the times is in the direction of general education and universal freedom.

We were only allowed to furnish two regiments of West Virginia Infantry Volunteers, of thirteen hundred and twenty-six

officers and men each. I could have furnished twenty-five regiments of Volunteers as easily as two. Our people literally climbed over one another to enlist in the Volunteer Army. Our first regiment was mainly organized out of our State Militia. All of the officers of that regiment were men of several years experience and training in our National Guard. The second regiment was mainly made up outside of our State troops. The officers of this regiment, however, were almost in every instance taken from graduates from Military Schools, and men who had had experience as officers of our State Militia. A large number of the private soldiers in each regiment were also graduates of Military Schools, and many of them were members of the State Guard, and were, therefore, well drilled men. Without boasting, I can say that our two West Virginia regiments are made up of as brave, manly and well educated men as ever shouldered a musket or unsheathed a sword. Our people, without regard to politics, are therefore proud of the prowess of our two West Virginia regiments. I will add also that politics were totally ignored in the make up of these regiments. As governor, I appointed as many officers from the Democratic party as from the Republican organization, to which I have the honor to belong. In this war with Spain we were all Americans, not partisans. Our mountaineers are natural patriots and natural soldiers as well. Although our conflict with Spain was short, it was marvelously decisive. History will register it, unqualifiedly, as one of the wonderful wars of the Centuries.

I have the honor to be,

Your Most obedient servant,

G. W. ATKINSON,

Governor of West Virginia.



## BOYHOOD DAYS.

*Governor Atkinson's Estimate of His Boyhood Days.*

*November 18, 1898.*

STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA,  
EXECUTIVE CHAMBER,  
CHARLESTON, November 18, 1898.

Miss Annabel Lee,  
No. 131 Post Street,  
San Francisco, Cal.,

DEAR FRIEND:—

Replying to your inquiry, I beg to say that I was reared on a farm. My father owned about one thousand acres of land in my boyhood, and it took a number of persons to cultivate it and keep the fences and houses in repair. I was set to work early in life, and was not allowed my choice about it. I inherited an industrious tendency from my mother, and it was, therefore, not difficult to keep me employed. I can not remember a time that I did not enjoy activity. The fact is, from early boyhood, I have been almost constantly at some sort of work. I have recently turned fifty, and I do not believe it can be said of me that I was ever an idler, even for a week of my entire career. My whole life, thus far, has been of the pack-mule sort, and I really enjoy it. I can account for this only by heredity, as I have stated.

I was sent to school early in life, and somehow I enjoyed study also. From my sixth year, up to the time I entered college at nineteen, I spent an average of five months in school every year. The country "school-master", in those days, advanced pupils more rapidly than now. I remember being put entirely through "Ray's Third Part Arithmetic" in one term, and carried four other studies besides; and I was required to be proficient in all of them. Nor was there any "cramming" about it, either. I can say in all candor that my text-books were thoroughly assimilated. I wish it were possible to require such school work by our children now-a-days.

When I was not in school I was at work on the farm, and even while at school, I was required to steadily toil mornings and evenings at farm labor. My father was also engaged in the lumber business, for many years, and I worked at that, driving teams—oxen and horses. This was a happy “rest” from farm work, and was very helpful to me in bringing into use different sets of muscles, which gave me physical development that has served me a good purpose in subsequent life. These two occupations, coupled with athletics, which I practiced for years, gave me a whipcord muscle that has never left me. I grew to good stature, and every muscular fiber was trained, thus making me physically very strong, and of the enduring kind. In these modern times, the few, and not the many boys, pay but little attention to physical development. This is a great mistake.

My parents were religious people, and they saw to it that I was taught good morals and proper conceptions of religion. I shall never cease to thank them for this. Impressions made along these lines upon my mind are with me yet, and always will remain.

Before I entered college, I had one year’s experience as a clerk in my father’s dry goods store, and also one year as a deputy under my father who was “high sheriff” of my native county, Kanawha, Virginia. These two years were invaluable to me in giving me an opportunity to mix with men and study human nature.

My next experience was as a student in a University, from which I graduated with a fairly good grade. I then took up the profession of law, and have pursued it assiduously to the present day. For eleven years, I was editor of a weekly newspaper, which did not interfere with my law business, and which also opened to me new avenues of training and experience. My purpose, all the while, was to be steadily employed, and make the best headway possible in acquiring knowledge. In early life I cultivated a taste for reading books in a systematic way, and shall always keep it up. Habits of thought and study are as easily formed as those that debase and destroy. I have endeavored to form such habits as will make me stronger and better and wiser, and hope to keep them up through the remainder of my days.

I have been in politics a good deal, and have filled several im-

portant offices, notably Member of Congress, United States Marshal, and Governor of my native State.

I look back over my boyhood days on the farm with no small degree of pleasure. I could fill a book with recollections of those "good old times of yore". And let me add that, in my judgment, the country is the place for all boys to begin industrious and successful careers. The plow and the hoe, "down on the farm", make one physically strong; and if he, on arriving at manhood, will assert himself and rely on himself and stick to his avocation faithfully, the "town boys" will always be distanced by the "yoker" from the fields.

Very truly yours,

G. W. ATKINSON,  
Governor of West Virginia.

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## FIRST MESSAGE.

*Governor Atkinson's First Message to the Legislature.*

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*January 11, 1899.*

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EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,  
STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA,  
CHARLESTON, January 11, 1899. }

GENTLEMEN OF THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF DELEGATES:

The Constitution of the State of West Virginia makes it incumbent upon me, as the Chief Executive, to submit for your consideration a careful statement of the financial affairs and other operations of the State government, together with such recommendations for the future government and welfare of the State, as may be justified by existing circumstances.

It is very gratifying to me to be able to assure you that the State is rapidly developing, and that the people in surrounding commonwealths are coming within our borders to avail themselves of the wonderful advantages with which a beneficent Providence has lavishly endowed us. In coal, oil, gas and tim-



ber, West Virginia is easily the first of all the states of the Union. For a number of years we have held first place in the production of oil and gas, second place in coke, and last year we forged ahead of our sister State of Ohio, and took third place in the output of coal. Having upwards of nine million acres of virgin forests, it is readily to be seen that we must be given first rank as to timber resources. It is only within a few years past that West Virginia began, in real earnest, to open up her marvelous natural resources, and I hazard nothing when I say that it is only a matter of a very few years for her to reach the forefront in wealth and enterprise among all the States.

In these years of drive and push and enterprise and close competition, the contest for success, in all business undertakings must ultimately narrow down to the survival of the fittest. The State that has the general investment of natural resources and advantages in the raw materials, which are the bases of all that go to make wealth, is the one that will, of necessity, win out in the end. We have double, or more, coal area than Pennsylvania, which is now our only actual competitor in the production of the "dusky diamond" that is greater in value than the gems of Golconda or the sparkling jewels of South Africa or Peru; therefore, it will require but a few years for our State to supplant Pennsylvania in the production of coal. The best quality of any article which can be purchased in sufficient quantities, will necessarily be in constant demand. We not only have the best quality of all coals and coke in the Republic, but we have a greater area of acreage; how, then, can we fail to take first place? This is true also of oil, timber and gas. I conclude, therefore, that our future as a State is a bright one, and our present prosperity is but a mere harbinger of what is yet to come.

Our population has gone beyond the million mark, and people from other States are coming to us rapidly. Our public schools are of a high order, and our laws are properly and vigorously enforced. Taxes in West Virginia are not excessive—therefore the advantages we are offering the people to come among us can not be surpassed by any other State.

We have one advantage over every other State in the Republic, and that is, we have no State debt, nor can we, under our present Constitution, ever create one. This is worthy of the

thoughtful consideration of every business man who has money to invest.

### FINANCIAL SITUATION.

For a detailed condition of our financial affairs for the past two years, I respectfully refer you to the biennial reports of the Auditor and Treasurer. These reports are full and complete, and give, with carefulness, every item of receipt and expenditure.

At the close of the fiscal year which ended October 31, 1898, the balances in the treasury to the credits of the different funds were as follows:

State Fund,	\$424,641.17
General School Fund,	367,026.10
School Fund (Uninvested).	271,193.21
Making a total balance in the treasury of \$1,062,860.48.	

In addition to the above, we have the healthy sum of the invested School Fund, amounting to \$656,800.00, which is a part of the cash assets of the State.

I may also add, and it affords me pleasure to be able so to do, that the amount disbursed for school purposes during the last two years was greater than ever before for the same period, and that during the preceding corresponding period, the school fund was increased nearly \$100,000. On the whole, our financial condition as a State is most gratifying.

### THE WAR WITH SPAIN.

Since your honorable body last assembled, our country has been thrust into a war with Spain. Spain is one of the oldest of the existing monarchies. Her age made her arrogant. She seemed to believe that she could do as she pleased. For many years past she has engaged in different wars to subjugate and tyrannize her subjects on the island of Cuba. The Cubans, like all other people, felt that they ought to be free, and be allowed to rule themselves and shape their own destinies. Spain, the mother country, thought otherwise. A war of subjugation recently ensued, which continued for more than three years. Thousands and tens of thousands of helpless men, women and children, as a result, perished from neglect and starvation. The Government of the United States, which for more

than one hundred years had been conducted upon the high plane of freedom and Christianity, advised greater liberties for the Cubans, but without avail. The old monarchy continued to tighten, instead of lessen, her grip upon the inhabitants of this, one of the most fertile islands of the seas. Meantime our country was patient, forbearing and conservative. At last one of our battleships—the Maine—was sunk by a submarine mine in Havana harbor by a Spanish assassin, and two hundred and sixty-six of our marines went down to watery graves. This was the tocsin of war. Our people rose as one man, and demanded the freedom of the struggling Cubans. Under God and the strong arm of the United States, they were made free. The war lasted but a few short months. Spain went to the rear—the United States, as the friend of liberty, came to the front. God Almighty was behind the scene. In this conflict, brief as it was, humanity received the greatest uplift that the world has experienced since the Christ was born. The human family were intended originally to be free. Slavery crept in. The world moved on. It was never intended that one man should own another. But nevertheless men were made slaves. God never intended it to be so; but it has been thus for six thousand years. It will not be thus much longer. There comes a time, and it is not far distant, when all men will own themselves. The war with Spain proves the correctness of this statement. The decree is patent to all that serfdom and slavery must go. They are creatures of the past. The “new dispensation,” under which we live is forever against such barbarity. Spain has gone, and the civilized world would rejoice all the more if she were wiped forever off the map of modern civilization and the world. As an uplift to humanity throughout the earth, the value to mankind cannot be estimated of the defeat of Spain by the United States, a government by the people, of the people and for the people. The educated masses of mankind must, and will, be with our country and against Spain in the latter’s effort to subjugate the Cubans. We were right—forever right, and Spain was wrong—forever wrong.

#### TEMPORARY LOANS.

Under Section 26 of Chapter 14 of the Code, re-enacted by Chapter 44, Acts of 1882, I borrowed from different banks in the State, the sum of \$28,000, to meet the necessary expenses



in furnishing two regiments of volunteer soldiers called for by the President to meet the emergency of the Spanish war. I took this course rather than to call the Legislature together to make the necessary appropriations for such purpose, which it doubtless would have promptly done. This course was taken as an emergency measure to save the State unnecessary expense. The Government, under the Act of Congress calling for volunteers, will refund the larger part of this expense. The necessary vouchers have been forwarded to the Secretary of War, and the money will be forthcoming at an early day.

Under this same section, I borrowed \$6,000 for the Second Hospital for the Insane, and \$10,000 for the State penitentiary at Moundsville. The reports of these two institutions fully explain why it was necessary for these two loans to be secured.

### THE STATE MILITIA.

This subject is one of paramount importance, as the policy of the founders of our Government evidently intended to rely upon a citizen volunteer soldiery for its main defense. There should always be an organized, armed, equipped and trained body of these citizens in every State, ready to respond to any call of its chief executive. This body of men should be trained and equipped on the same line as the regular army, and armed as well as the regular army. This done we will have always an insurance against trouble at home or abroad.

There is a movement now making with a view of inducing the general government to assist the National Guard with more liberal appropriations. A convention of military men, including the Adjutant Generals of many of the States was recently held in the city of Chicago, and they by concerted action appealed to the general government for greater help in the way of money and assistance. With this movement I am in profound sympathy. The National Guard of West Virginia has done well in the late war, having responded promptly to the call for troops, and shown great eagerness to be of service to the common country.

The First Regiment, which I am informed, has few equals in the service, took a majority of our officers and men from our Guard. They are excellent soldiers, and I am proud of them. The Second Regiment also had many officers and men who were taken from the Guard, but on the whole, this Regiment was

more generally drawn from the unorganized militia, the great reserve of the people. This is a Regiment of which I am also justly proud. They have an excellent name, which I learn from the officers commanding them—brigade, division and corps commanders. It was necessary to hold back in the State a portion of the National Guard, and those who had to remain at home, though desirous of going into service, have shown that “they also serve who only stand and wait.” And their readiness and patriotism are highly appreciated by me, and by the people as well.

Under General George W. Curtin the reorganization of the Guard has proceeded well, and we have now a force sufficient to uphold the law, if required, in any ordinary emergency. It is my desire to see the National Guard of West Virginia equal to any similar Guard in the country, not for show, but for service, and the Adjutant General and other officers in authority have the same aspiration, and are working to this end.

While the Militia Law passed by the last Legislature is, in the main, a good bill, there are faults in it that should be corrected. The Law provides, in section 44, page 16, that “all expenses incurred in active service shall be paid by the Treasurer of the State out of any monies not otherwise appropriated.” When it became necessary to expend more monies in collecting at a rendezvous the National Guard, and organizing therefrom, under the call of the President, a regiment of volunteers, the Auditor ruled that there was no money available for the purpose, “there was no money in the treasury, not otherwise appropriated.” I was, therefore, obliged to borrow money from banks to carry out the orders of the President, thus putting the State to the expense of interest payment thereon.

It is expedient that the Legislature should provide in the general appropriation bill an appropriation to be held in the treasury or State depositories, of say, twenty thousand dollars, subject to the orders of the Governor for the contingencies of war, or riot, or in other cases where the use of troops may become necessary to carry out and enforce the law.

One other point to which I desire to call your attention, is the fact that the Adjutant General’s office having been caused considerable annoyance, and the transaction of business having been seriously delayed by the question raised by the late brigade commander as to his rank and authority, in reference to the

authority and rights of the Adjutant General of the State, it seems necessary for the prompt transaction of business, that this matter should be definitely settled, and, as the Judge Advocate General and the Attorney General have decided that the Adjutant General is of right the superior officer of the two, it is deemed easier to settle this question by raising the rank of the Adjutant General, than by otherwise amending the law. The Adjutant General should be a Major General as he is in Ohio and many other States, and he should be plainly indicated as chief of staff, and as holding the place next to the Commander-in-Chief, as the Secretary of War holds next to the President, who is Commander-in-Chief of the army and navy of the United States.

There are at least 125,000 men between 18 and 45 who are under our law subject to military duty as fighting men of West Virginia, and the Adjutant General is the legal head and organizer of this great force, in addition to his relations to the National Guard, which is the organized militia of the State.

I, therefore, ask at your hands the passage of a bill that will meet these emergencies and harmonize the inconsistencies and differences which will, no doubt, be apparent to all of you.

Our State Guard is of inestimable value to the prosperity, growth and good name of our State, and we should leave nothing undone to make this great arm of the law more effective in the future than it has been in the past. Our young men are willing to render any service in their power, at the command of the Chief Executive, to place West Virginia in the front rank of the most law-abiding States in the Union. We should, therefore, deal with them liberally and properly, because in emergencies we must implicitly rely upon them as the main factors in enforcing the law when unforeseen troubles may arise. In my humble judgment, you can not be too liberal with this arm of the public service.

#### THE STATE UNIVERSITY.

This, the leading educational institution of our State, under its present management is enjoying marvelous growth and prosperity. It has rounded up its thirtieth year of existence. There were but six college students within its walls the year it started out upon its great mission. For the college year of 1897-8, it had, in all of its departments, 874 students. The



preceding year, the total enrollment was 465. This shows an actual growth, in one year, of nearly one hundred per cent. Such advancement, in so short space of time, is nothing short of phenomenal. It is perhaps, the most promising State University in the entire country. Every West Virginian should justly feel proud of the wonderful headway it is making.

The new president, Dr. Jerome H. Raymond, is a young man, highly educated, full of energy and enthusiasm, and thoroughly imbued with the spirit of his high calling. He has given to the institution his best endeavors, and if properly encouraged by the Legislature and the people, he will bring great prominence to our University. This, I firmly believe, will be given him. I sincerely hope that your honorable body will be liberal in appropriations to this institution.

The report of the Board of Regents is so complete in details that I do not deem it necessary to say more relative to the University. I may add, however, that the Board of Regents is non-partisan, and that politics have been thoroughly divorced from the institution. No professor shall be dismissed from the University simply because he is a Democrat, nor shall one be employed for no other reason than that he is a Republican, if I can prevent it.

The Board of Regents, which is composed of the biggest, brainiest and broadest men in the State, are thoroughly in sympathy with this principle, and are doing their very best to place the school upon the highest possible plane of usefulness.

### OUR PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

For more than a generation I have carefully watched the operations of our public schools, and I do not hesitate to say that I regard them the bulwark of our liberties, and as an infallible gauge to the growth, progress and development of the State. The better the public school, the better the citizen. Money expended in the public education of the people is money saved in the enforcement of the law. The more school teachers we have, the fewer police officers will be necessary. A dollar expended in educating young people, is two dollars saved in the criminal expenses of the State. There can, therefore, be no question as to the wisdom of a system of education, in the ordinary English branches, at the expense of the public treasury.

The report of the State Superintendent of Public Schools is so exhaustive, that I need not say more on this subject.

### NORMAL SCHOOLS.

Our seven Normal Schools are all in a flourishing condition. They were better attended last year than in any other year of their existence, and I am persuaded that the corps of teachers gets better every year. The Board of Regents have given a large amount of attention to their duties since I have been in office, and so far as I am able to judge, have rendered faithful service to the State.

Since 1870 20,978 pupils have been enrolled in these several Normal Schools, and 1,547 have been graduated. To say the least, this is a wonderful work in the making of good, intelligent citizens, and in moulding character for the years that are to come.

I beg here to renew the suggestion made in my inaugural address, that the law relative to our Normal Schools be so changed as to give us one distinctive, real Normal institute, with a curriculum which will enable us, as a State, to teach teachers how to teach, which we term real pedagogy. Our Normals at this time are little more than high grade academies. A slight change of the law would make one of the seven schools a Normal school, for teachers alone to enter, and all the others would become feeders to it. This, unquestionably, was the original intention of the law, and I hope, therefore, that you will give due consideration to this suggestion.

### THE WEST VIRGINIA COLORED INSTITUTE.

This institution, established by the wise foresight of the State, assisted by the General Government, is intended to bear the same relation to our colored people that the University at Morgantown bears to the white people. To accomplish the ends for which the school was established, it is necessary that it be fostered and encouraged by appropriate legislation and adequate financial assistance.

The School has a regular cadet company, properly uniformed and armed by the State. I, therefore, recommend that chapter 45, sections 82 and 83 of the Code be made to apply to the West Virginia Colored Institute.

The crowded condition of the boys' department, renders a new building necessary. The main building is too small for the growing needs of the School, and an appropriation should, therefore, be made to enlarge it.

Since the laws of the State require that the expenses for the printing of catalogues, the purchase of stationery, etc., be paid out of the contingent fund, I recommend a larger appropriation for that purpose. The last appropriation was entirely inadequate to meet the demands upon that fund. The U. S. Government appropriates \$5,000 annually toward the support of the School. From this fund, four instructors in mechanics and farming and the President of the institution are paid. From this fund, also, all the purchases of material for these departments are made.

The State must, therefore, increase the appropriation for teachers' salaries in the normal department, or the work of this department will be retarded. The number of engines, and the amount of machinery connected with the institution make the care of a regular engineer imperative. Five Hundred Dollars should be appropriated for this purpose. The good work of this Institution is already making itself felt throughout the State.

Teachers from this school have gone into every part of the State, and, by their better culture, and broader knowledge of the people, are raising the standard of education and good citizenship.

### DEAF, DUMB AND BLIND SCHOOLS.

Our Schools for the Deaf and the Blind at Romney are making substantial progress, and the increased attendance calls for an enlargement of the buildings. A number of applicants have been excluded on account of the present crowded conditions, and I would recommend an appropriation for such enlargement as will enable the admission of all entitled to attendance. If this is done, it will call for an increase of the Current Expense fund to meet additional demands.

A review of twenty parallel State institutions shows a per capita expense of two hundred and fifty-three dollars, while in our own the cost per pupil is one hundred and seventy dollars. The report shows that the class rooms in the deaf department are not well ventilated or lighted, and this is a most serious mat-



ter, when we contemplate its effect upon the eyes of children who can only gain information through the medium of sight. The blind department is under good organization, well supplied with text and reference books, and the musical section has been very much improved by the purchase of new instruments. If an orchestra is re-organized it will necessitate the employment of a director, and some other additional expenses.

The manual training should not be abridged for want of appliances, and funds should be provided for an extension of this department.

After a thorough review, I can see no objection to the dual organization, and would recommend the continuation of these schools under one supervision, at least for the present, believing that both classes will be afforded as good opportunities for instruction as could be secured under separate management.

For matters in detail, I refer you to the biennial report of this institution, believing that you will make a liberal provision for these unfortunate children, whose lives are wrapped up in silence and darkness; to whom all avenues of instruction are closed unless special training be given them in this important institution of our State.

### A PUBLIC LIBRARY SYSTEM.

The work of education in our State has made such advancement, our public schools have so increased in efficiency, that the general average of intelligence and culture is greatly improved. I think that the time has now come for the supplementing of our admirable system of public schools by a system of public libraries. These will afford the teachers and pupils of our schools greater facilities for broad and general knowledge and will tend to advance the general intelligence and morality of the communities in which they are located.

Laws to encourage or command the establishment and maintenance of free public libraries in towns now exist in twenty-seven states of the Union and are pending in some others. Several other States also have laws for the establishment of school libraries in the school districts. It is noticeable that some States, notably Maine, having an excellent library system, exert upon the Nation an influence much greater than their size and population would lead us to expect. The personal character of a

people, their intelligence and morality, are important factors in the development of a State's influence and power.

Our own State's rapid development along all material lines, its flourishing financial condition, the imperative need of developing its people in every way for larger and nobler responsibilities—these make it fit and proper that we should inaugurate a movement for the establishment of free public libraries throughout the State. Our State is entitled by its natural advantages to assume at no distant date, a place among the leading commonwealths of the Nation. Its people are worthy of, and should receive every advantage for equipping them for making the best use of their opportunities.

I recommend legislation along the following lines:

1. The creation of a non-partisan commission of five persons as a State Public Library Commission, to generally encourage, direct and supervise the establishment of free public libraries in all parts of the State. These shall serve without salary, but may expend a sum not to exceed \$500 a year for secretary's work, traveling and incidental expenses.

2. A law authorizing every legal division of the State, as county, city and school district, to levy taxes and appropriate money for the establishment and maintenance of a free public library within its borders, either in connection with its public schools or separate from them.

3. A law providing for the payment of subsidies from the State Treasury for the benefit of each free public library in the State—such subsidies to be regulated in their amount by the size of the library and the community in which it is located, but in no case to exceed \$200 per year for any one library.

### BOY'S REFORM SCHOOL.

The reports of the Board of Directors and the Superintendent of this institution, I have no doubt will be read with interest by you, as they have been read by me. The institution is certainly in splendid condition. The Board of Directors report no deficit, and when the bills receivable are all paid, there will be a nice balance in the treasury. This school was opened in July, 1890, and up to October 1, 1898, five hundred boys have been admitted into the institution. During the past year one hundred were admitted and fifty-nine were discharged. The present num-

ber of inmates is two hundred, of whom twenty-nine are colored.

I have not had an opportunity to visit the school, but from the reports of the Board of Directors and the Superintendent, and from other persons who are familiar with its workings, I am fully persuaded that it is well managed, and is in an eminently satisfactory condition. The school is carefully graded, the health of the boys is good, and the discipline and moral tone are of a high order. Instruction is carefully given in farming and the mechanic arts. Other industries should be added to those now taught, so as to give employment to those that are now, of necessity, uninstructed in the useful arts.

There has been an earnest effort on the part of the managers of this institution to carry out the intention for which it was established, and it has already proved itself a valuable adjunct to the State's penal work.

The handling of wayward boys is an important duty of the State. In the interest of humanity and of judicious economy, special effort should be made to render all available opportunities in the way of growth into a worthy manhood of those unfortunate youths, who either by heredity or by bad associations drift or are entrapped into violations of our Statutes in early life. The duties of administration and supervision are distinct in theory, and are merged in practice in homes such as the one at Pruntytown, and which in all the States that have instituted them, have proved both satisfactory and profitable.

### REFORM SCHOOL FOR GIRLS.

The last session of your honorable body, wisely, I think, established an Industrial School or Home for incorrigible females in our State, under the age of eighteen years. A small appropriation was made to begin the important work. The Board of Directors selected a site near Salem, Harrison county, for the school, and one of the contemplated series of buildings has been constructed. One-third of this edifice is now ready for the reception of a few incorrigible girls, or at least will be ready as soon as the necessary furniture can be procured.

The citizens of Salem donated 38 acres of ground, bored a fresh water well and supplied the same with a large tank for the use of the occupants of the building.



To fully complete the structure, to properly furnish it, to fence the grounds and put them in proper condition, and to carry on the institution for the ensuing two years, and at the same time add one or more buildings, a good sized appropriation will be necessary at your hands. The Board has already received a large number of applications for admission to the institution, which is proof positive of the wisdom of the Legislature in establishing the school.

### THE WESTON ASYLUM.

The Hospital at Weston, in all of its apportionments, is one of the great eleemosynary institutions of the entire country. In accommodations, grounds, surroundings, and management, it belongs to the first class of similar institutions everywhere. Its present management is bound to commend it to the favorable consideration of our people. During the past two years, a vast amount of repairing of the plant has been done, and yet much more of this sort of work should be done to put things in proper condition.

The improvements recently made more as follows: A new laundry has been added at a cost of \$20,000, on which there remains an unpaid balance of \$9,975.00, which is now due. The Colored hospital has been remodeled, at a cost of \$1,850. Two Sterling water tube boilers of 250 horse power each, were purchased at a cost of \$4,100, one-half of which amount remains unpaid. An electric light plant of sufficient capacity to light the building and grounds, costing \$4,600, for which entire payment has been made. Other minor improvements have been added, which have materially increased the convenience and value of the property.

The Superintendent, who is unquestionably an able and competent man, states in his report to me that "the appropriation for the past two years for current expenses was \$130,000 for each year. This is not sufficient to properly carry on the institution for the number of employees and patients we now have. We have about seventy-five more patients and eight more employees than we had a year ago. The number of patients we now have is 1,021, and we also have one hundred and seventy employees, which make about twelve hundred people to feed and furnish with bedding, and over one thousand to clothe. We need new carpets and furniture for the administration building,

as those we now have are not creditable to the State. We need specially new mattresses and bedsteads in a number of our apartments. In short, I can assure you that every dollar of appropriations asked for by the Board should be given to us."

The report of the Board of Directors of this institution is complete within itself, and I ask your careful consideration of their requests.

The insane are the wards of the State, and we will make a serious mistake if we fail to render to them all the assistance in our power.

We have two hospitals of this character, both of which are intelligently and properly conducted. I have given personal attention to both of them, and have inspected them with great carefulness, because I deemed it due to myself, as well as to the people of our State, that we should know exactly how our unfortunate insane are being looked after.

At this Hospital, all the water from condensation in the steam heating coils is discharged into the sewer. This enormous waste should be stopped. Some idea of this waste may be estimated from the amount of water used in the steam heating system during the season when artificial heat is used, which probably is from 150,000 to 200,000 gallons per day. This water, taken cold and dirty from the river, is discharged from the heating coils hot and clean. It should be returned to the boilers. The saving of fuel and wear and destruction of boilers would probably compensate for the cost of the needed improvement in a single season. No accurate estimate of the cost has been made, but probably it would cost from \$1,000 to \$1,500 to carry it into effect.

## SECOND HOSPITAL FOR THE INSANE.

After a personal inspection of this splendid institution, I am pleased to state that it is being managed, I am sure, to the entire satisfaction of the people of the State, and relatives and friends of the Hospital's patients should find much consolation in knowing that their loved ones receive the best of treatment and kindest of attention at this institution. All departments have been kept up to a high point of excellency, and the moral and humane character of the institution is all that could be asked.

The fiscal year ending Sept. 30th, 1898, has been the most

flourishing in the history of this Hospital. There were admitted during the year 155 patients, being a greater number of admissions than in any previous year. There were discharged as recovered 63, which exceeds previous years, while the death rate has been very low, being 5.9 per cent. on the whole number treated. Number remaining in Hospital, October 1st, 1898, 311.

A pure and abundant supply of water for the Hospital cannot be over estimated, and there should be a special appropriation to complete the improvements that have already been commenced in this direction.

A dynamo should be purchased for the Hospital at the earliest possible moment, as the one that is now in use is insufficient for the needs of the Hospital, and in case of an accident to the dynamo, the institution would be very much embarrassed.

It is very important that there should be a special appropriation to purchase an ice plant, as on account of the inaccessible location and growth of the institution, the cost of ice is increasing each year, and at the present rate of expenses for ice, an ice plant would pay for itself in about three years.

I am inclined to believe that the various sums as set forth by the Board of Directors in their bi-ennial report to me are essential for the successful maintenance of this institution. Particularly do I call your attention to the fact, that this institution has been hitherto stinted, from year to year, in its appropriations, necessitating cumbersome deficiencies that have been carried forward from one year to another, which, in my judgment, ought not to be done. I beg of you to give this subject due consideration.

#### AMENDMENT TO LUNACY LAW.

It seems to me that our present lunacy law should be carefully revised. To say the least our present law on this important matter is notoriously loose. I would suggest that the Superintendents of our two Insane Hospitals be consulted as to the proper and greatly needed amendments to our existing law.

Cases of acute alcoholism, paupers and other improper persons are repeatedly adjudged insane, and if the superintendents of the Hospitals discharge them and return them to their re-



spective counties, they are frequently returned to the Hospitals. There should be at least a partial remedy for these evils.

Some of the counties of the State in sending their pauper insane deliver them to the Hospital's authorities in a pitiable condition, very often clothed in rags and their clothing and bodies infected with vermin and dirt. Each county in sending its pauper insane should see that a complete outfit of clothing is provided the patients just before leaving the county jail, so that the introduction of contagious germs and vermin would be prevented at the Hospitals, and it should also insure decency and comfort to the patient in transit.

There are a large number of persons in our two insane hospitals who are not insane, and under existing law, are received as insane, which is unjust to the tax payers of the State. Scores of born idiots are now confined in these two hospitals. The law never contemplated the care of this class of unfortunates. They are truly unfortunates, but they are not insane, because they never possessed minds or intellects to become over-balanced or destroyed. This matter, it seems to me, is worthy of your careful consideration.

#### ASYLUM FOR INCURABLES.

The last session of your honorable body provided for the establishment of a home for that class of persons, within the limits of our State, who are afflicted with incurable diseases. We have within our State lines a large number of citizens who are afflicted with diseases and maladies that medical skill cannot reach. These unfortunates who are unable to provide for themselves should be cared for at public expense. The State has very properly undertaken to provide a home for this helpless class of our citizens. Other states have made similar provisions. Philanthropic people everywhere commend movements of this character. This class of unfortunates must be looked after, and our State is among the first to assume the responsibility of providing a permanent and comfortable home for them at public expense. Those who are afflicted with incurable diseases ought not to be received into insane asylums or county poor houses; and yet, they should somehow and in some way be looked after and provided for in the most considerate manner. The people of West Virginia, through their representatives

in the legislature, have decided to construct an asylum for these helpless, hapless individuals. A vast sum of money is necessary to successfully carry out this undertaking. Our people, through their representatives, have expressed a willingness to provide the necessary funds to consummate this great philanthropic movement, and the work has been properly and carefully started.

The Committee, or Board provided for by the statute in creating this asylum, located it at Huntington, and the Board of Directors of the institution, provided for under the Act, accepted the plan of Architect Harrison Albright, of Charleston, known as the "cottage plan," which will cost, in round numbers, the sum of \$200,000, to complete it. These various buildings will accommodate comfortably one thousand patients, which shows less cost by far, for the same capacity and character of accommodations, than any of our other State institutions, and, perhaps, any other similar institution of the kind in our entire country. The plan of the architect reveals great genius, and impresses me as one worthy of special consideration.

The Board of Directors of this institution has devoted much time and energy to the induction, construction and completion of this great undertaking. This Board, being wrapped up in its designs, desires and work; and with a sincere hope of having your earnest backing to carry to successful completion its plans so carefully and deliberately made, ask at your hands an appropriation sufficient to construct these various buildings at the earliest period possible.

In the language of the President of the Board of Directors of this institution: "It is not to the interest of the State, or in justice to the long suffering class of incurables, for the Legislature to cripple the Board of Directors by a meager appropriation, for when only a building at a time can be erected, it necessitates extra expense in heating, plumbing, laundry, etc., while the whole plan will embrace one general heating system as well as a general laundry. Common business principles demand a generous recognition of this institution, that it may rank, not only as the first in the charities of our own State, but that it may be known the length and breadth of the United States."

This is an excellent presentation of the merits of this long needed humane institution. The plan adopted by the Board

cannot fail to meet your approbation. It is modern in all its appliances; the buildings are attractive and convenient, and when completed, according to the plan of the architect, will perhaps be the most commanding public structure within the State. I cannot but feel that the conception of the plan is the product of real genius.

One of the several buildings has already been completed, and the Board of Directors is anxious to push all the other buildings to a speedy conclusion. This ambition is laudable, and owing to the urgent existing need for its construction, I ask that the request of the Board may, as far as possible, be complied with.

### STATE PENITENTIARY.

The management of this important State institution by the present Board of Directors and Warden, has been most creditable and most satisfactory the past two years. It has been conducted on the closest and strictest business principles possible. The expenses have been materially reduced, and I mean no disparagement to former administrations when I say that the general conduct of the institution has been greatly improved. Its affairs have been so systematically and carefully conducted that it has reached almost a self-supporting basis. The bi-ennial report, which I beg to hand you, has been accurately prepared, and I commend it to your careful scrutiny and your thoughtful consideration.

On account of an error in the appropriation for this institution, (which was evidently an oversight) it was found necessary for the Board of Public Works to borrow the sum of \$10,000, to meet the current expenses and the repairs that it was found necessary to make; and I ask that a deficiency appropriation for that amount and the interest thereon from October 1, 1898, to pay said loan, be made by your honorable body.

During the years 1897-8 a substantial, valuable and necessary addition to the building was made. These new cells were necessary, not only for the security of the prisoners, but for their health as well. The present management has introduced new sanitary methods, which have resulted in a marked improvement of the health of the convicts. The institution is moving along without a jar, and is in all respects creditable to our progressive State.



## STATE BOARD OF HEALTH.

The State Board of Health has been, the past year, more valuable to the State than perhaps at any other period of its history, on account of the appearance of small-pox in two of the most populous sections of West Virginia, and the intelligent and heroic manner that it was treated by this Board. The malady was corralled and stamped out in a comparatively short period of time. Had it not been for the energetic efforts of this Board, the disease might have been general and caused great loss of life and irreparable injury to the business interests of the people.

I can assure your honorable body that this Board, by the high standard of requirements laid down for those engaged in the practice of medicine, has weeded out the mountebanks from the profession, and none but well educated and well equipped physicians can now secure permits to practice medicine within the limits of the State. This alone is worth to all classes much more than the sum of money required to pay the expenses of the Board. The bi-ennial report, which I herewith submit for your consideration, is so complete in all the essential details of the operations of the Board, that I need do no more than call your attention to it in this general manner.

## THE STATE BOARD OF AGRICULTURE.

This comparatively new department of our State has, perhaps, made more advancement and improvement than any other during the present administration. From a very small beginning in 1891, it has steadily advanced in importance and usefulness, until it has become a necessity to the people, and a State department of which we are all proud. To it you may go for such information as pertains to the great and growing agricultural interests of our State, with the full assurance that you will find what you seek, and be kindly and courteously treated by it, and by all of its representatives. It has been instrumental in introducing many new and useful ideas to the farmers, stockmen and fruit growers of the State, and its earnest and persistent efforts are being fully appreciated by the farmers and the people generally, and they are co-operating with zeal and earnestness, in all the Board undertakes for their benefit; and husbandry, in the fullness of its meaning, is being

rapidly developed within our borders, a fact which should be recognized by all as an omen of better things to come. No agricultural State or county can be really prosperous, or reach its highest development in good citizenship, with an oppressed, maltreated and down-trodden rural population. Ours is an agricultural State to such an extent that nearly 70,000 more people are engaged in this pursuit than can be found in all of our magnificent forests, all of our splendid mines, all of our rich oil fields, all of our work shops, all of our great manufacturing establishments, and all of our stores and offices combined.

That considerably more than one-half of our population of about one million citizens, are engaged in some of the various and varied branches of husbandry, and that new and better methods are constantly obtaining, largely through the efforts of this Board, should be a source of great gratification and pleasure to all who seek the highest good of the people, and the fullest development of our magnificent resources as a State.

The monthly publication of this Board, which was formerly issued quarterly and in much less numbers, is now issued monthly, and an edition of 8,000 copies is readily absorbed by the farmers who have learned its value, and who desire to be "up-to-date" in all their farming operations. The number required is constantly increasing, and will probably reach 15,000 within the next year. This publication, now known as "The West Virginia Farm Review", affords an excellent medium through which to carry to the farmers of the State the latest and most approved methods in agriculture, and for the free interchange of ideas and experiences—the successes and failures of the practical farmers themselves—and whether this method or that proves most satisfactory in the actual experiences of the farm. Without this publication, much of the information gathered by the Board in its aggressive and progressive operations, would lie dormant and unused by the mass of the farmers of our State; but with it, by it and through it, all may know what is being accomplished by improved methods of management and tillage.

Another great means of education and improvement is offered the people in the system of Farmers' Institutes which the Board has inaugurated. During the present administration, this branch of the work of the Board has been very wisely and

successfully extended. Within the past two years, fifty-six very successful and instructive Farmers' Institutes have been held, nearly all of which were well attended by the local farmers. Representatives of the Board and of the experiment Station of the University, attended these meetings, assisted in the organization, and took part in the discussion of the many important and timely subjects which were brought before the societies. A strong and well officered Farmers' Institute society is now reported from each of the fifty-five counties of our State. With practical farmers composing the Board, and scientific and experimental men from the University Station, and the veterinarians, and other consulting members of the Board, the instruction given, and the discussions had at the institutes must have been varied, and doubtless covered the ground in a most satisfactory and helpful manner to those in attendance. The demand seems imperative for still more and better work in the Farmers' Institute field, and I bespeak for this work your hearty encouragement.

Acting under the authority conferred by House Bill No. 26, passed by the last session of the Legislature, the Board of Agriculture has been active in its efforts to suppress all dangerous and contagious diseases among domestic animals, found within the State. Quite a number of cattle infected with tuberculosis, and horses with glanders, have been quarantined or destroyed; and I am of opinion that much more money was saved the people of the State within the past two years than the maintenance of the Board has cost since its creation. The consulting veterinarians of the Board have been invaluable in carrying into practical effect the provisions of this Act. They conducted all examinations and tests, and proved themselves well equipped for their work. The necessary amendments to the bill above referred to, and the available appropriation mentioned in the recommendation of the Board is certainly desirable, and should have your careful attention and support.

Our live stock interests must be properly protected, if we may hope for improvement and development along this line.

The recommendations regarding the gathering of Agricultural Statistics for the department by the county assessors, meets my approval and endorsement, and I hope will receive your careful consideration.



The tax question is one of great importance to all of us and especially to our farmers; and any unequal or unjust discriminations which may exist should be fairly and properly adjusted, so that every species of taxable property will bear its just and equitable share of the burdens of taxation. The assessments should be just and uniform throughout the State, falling with equal and exact fairness upon all species of taxable property; and such laws as may be necessary to compel every corporation and every individual to properly list all property for taxation—whether visible or invisible—should be enacted and enforced.

West Virginia is especially adapted to sheep husbandry, and it is one of our expanding and developing industries. Such legislation as will most effectually protect our flocks against the ravages of dogs should be speedily enacted, as it is certainly desired by the flock masters of our State.

Our orchard products are becoming of more and more value and importance every year, and the dangers from disease and insect pests are increasing with each succeeding year. The worst of all orchard pests—the San Jose scale—has already been introduced into several sections of the State on nursery stock from other states, but through the efforts of the Experiment Station and the Board of Agriculture, its spread has been confined to a small area. It is believed that it has been thoroughly eradicated from one or more orchards in the eastern part of the State, and if this proves to be true, the work of the Station and the Board merits the highest praise. Our orchard products are too great to be left to luck or chance, and proper legislation for its effectual protection is asked by our farmers and fruit growers, and should not be ignored or neglected.

Nearly \$700,000 is being practically wasted upon our public highways every year, as little or no permanent improvements are being made. The cry from every section is for some system of PERMANENT ROAD BUILDING. The State will never reach its highest development, until this problem is solved, and good roads checker our State in every direction. Our roads are arteries of commerce, and no pains or expense should be spared to secure the greatest possible improvements along these lines.

I refer with gratification and pleasure to the ten supplemental reports to be found in the Report of the Board of Agriculture. The bringing together of all the agencies which are at work in

the State, for the development of agriculture, will prove a convenience which will be appreciated by all who are interested in it. All of these associations and societies, I am informed, are working in harmony with the Board of Agriculture, and are assisting greatly in the consummation of its plans.

Before leaving this subject, I desire to endorse most heartily the efficient and helpful work of this Board, in my efforts to develop the great natural resources of our State, and I express the hope that everything which this Board has asked, in the way of appropriations, may be cheerfully granted. I believe the recommendations are reasonable and right, and I am confident it will be heartily approved by the great army of agricultural tax payers throughout the State, and carefully, economically and judiciously expended in the interest of agriculture, and to the advantage and betterment of the whole people of the State.

#### CONDITIONS OF LABOR IN THE STATE.

You will find the fifth bi-ennial report of the Commissioner of Labor an able and exhaustive report, which I trust all of you will find time to read. I have carefully gone over this valuable report with the Commissioner, and submit a brief summary of certain important conditions followed by a few recommendations and changes of statute, which I trust you will be pleased to consider.

It is incumbent upon the Commissioner to perform the duties of inspection and to enforce labor laws and regulations pertaining thereto. While this has been required of the Commissioner under the law since the establishment of the office, for the first time these duties have been fully performed, and the recommendation for a more efficient system of inspection embodied in the report of factory inspection and recommendation relative to employment of children contained in the introduction of this report are the results of his investigations. To better inform himself of the conditions surrounding wage earners, male and female, the Commissioner spent four months among the principal industries of the State, and personally inspected five hundred establishments in all parts of the State where labor is employed. The importance of this investigation suggested itself from the fact that there is no law pertaining to and regulating labor outside of mining interests in our State. Factory and

workshop inspection is rapidly becoming a very interesting and important feature in State affairs. It is one of the practical methods of legislation that brings prompt and efficient results to the mechanic and laborer, and brings about results that better the conditions of employment of labor.

Aside from general investigation and the work of factory inspection, much has been accomplished along special lines of interest to the working people, and we have succeeded in having the Bureau of Labor recognized as a means eminently useful to the attainment of facts and conditions necessary for efficient legislation in all matters pertaining to the relation of capital and labor and their interests and the welfare of our working people.

For the benefit of those in whose interests this office has been established, Commissioner Barton has kept in close touch with all departments of labor in the United States and from these sources I am confident we have been greatly benefitted.

In the work thus far, satisfactory progress, I think, has been made, and perhaps the best results obtained are that a basis has been established, and the work well begun will now be more easily kept up and carried through in the years to come.

I will take up separately the subjects investigated by the Commissioner and desire to recommend some legislation in the interest of those people who have no hope except in their representatives in Legislatures and in Congress; and I trust you will be pleased by proper legislation to inaugurate a system of reform in West Virginia that will be of advantage to the State and a benefit to its people also.

The Acts of 1887 relative to the employment of minors is inadequate for the purpose for which it was intended, and a more stringent law should be passed to prevent the employment of children in our factories and workshops. Children are found employed to do the work that should be performed by able-bodied men; not through necessity, but from the fact that it is cheaper. For this reason strong men are forced to enter the labor market in competition with this kind of labor—children of twelve years of age and less. There are many employers of laborers in our State who have the services of little boys and girls for no other purpose than to decrease the cost of production, which necessarily displaces adult labor. These little children, Commissioner Barton informs me, work as many



hours as is required by the strongest men and often for less than two dollars per week. Public sentiment admits that if there is a business that cannot be successfully carried on without child labor it certainly needs the attention of the State.

We have the expressions of many noted physicians on this subject, who denounce the employment of children of so tender an age as really barbarous, and which will entail untold misery to future generations. We have also the expressions of well informed manufacturers, principals of schools and colleges and working men who claim the people should raise their voices in protest against this cruelty to the innocent. The views of our Labor Commissioner on this question are, in view of the higher educational requirements in every department of life, we owe to the youth of our State, such protection as will protect them against ignorance and being impaired in life by labor while the body and its functions are in process of development. I believe that we owe it to ourselves and to posterity and to the working men of our State, that the age of labor be raised in order to lessen the tendency of bringing the labor of children into competition with men and women, and by this the general labor of the country would be better paid. Public sentiment, I am sure, strongly supports the arguments here outlined, and my own experience and observation prove to my entire satisfaction that the age of twelve years is too low to accomplish the purpose for which it was intended. Therefore I recommend that the law be changed so as to make it unlawful to employ children under fourteen years of age in any of the manufacturing industries and mines of West Virginia.

Without any statute regulation relative to female laborers, we have some of the best equipped factories in West Virginia looking to the comfort and privacy of female employes that has been the pleasure of the Commissioner to have seen, and while this may not be in the strict sense of the term an exception to the rule, it is certainly not general enough to be passed by unnoticed. It has come under the observation and within the experience of the Commissioner to inspect plants where females are employed, where no consideration whatever has been given them as regards the difference of sex. While it is unpleasant to bring to your attention matters of this kind, I regard it my plain duty so to do, and regret, upon the authority of the Commissioner, to say, that there are employers of females in our

State who make no provision for retirement and privacy of females. There could not be a greater neglect than this. It is, to say the least, inexcusable to compel females who are forced by necessity to work in factories and workshops to submit to such indignities and exposure. There is another imposition as unpardonable and cruel as the above in common practice that working girls have to submit to: namely, they are compelled to remain on their feet for as many hours as they are employed; ten, and even twelve hours per day. In some of our industries, the Commissioner informs me that he has seen, during a short suspension of work, girls leaning against the wall and hanging to machinery and on counters, stealing as it were, a moment's rest for their tired and aching limbs. Could there be anything more cruel than this? What is the natural condition of these girls after a few years of this kind of work and their chance for life on entering motherhood? It presents itself as a plain case for State intervention; and for their relief I make the following recommendation: namely, that every person, firm or corporation employing females in any mercantile or manufacturing establishment in this State, furnish and provide suitable seats for the use of females so employed, and shall permit the use of such seats by said females when they are not engaged in the active duties for which they are employed. I further recommend that all persons employing females in this State, in any business whatever, shall furnish and provide, where it is necessary to change clothing, suitable rooms for this purpose, and lavatories for the exclusive use of females.

As I have instanced child and female labor, it is equally true as regards industrial conditions in all departments of labor in the State.

With the exception as above stated of the mining industry, there seems to be a total absence of industrial legislation for the welfare and preservation of life and health of the wage earners in the industrial establishments of West Virginia. With a few notable exceptions, the Commissioner states that employers of labor have been as negligent in this matter as the State. It must be said to the credit of some of our employers of labor, however, that every precaution is made and great consideration is given for the prevention of accidents and the preservation of the life and health of their employees, and the most modern and improved methods for this purpose have been employed; some

of them so perfect in their arrangement and equipment that it would be impossible for the Commissioner to offer any suggestions for their improvement. It is needless to say that there are no accidents to report from places of this kind. The number of accidents that are reported almost daily coming to the notice and under the observation of the Commissioner, prove conclusively that there is a necessity for statutory regulations for the government of our factories and other places where labor is regularly performed. It is true in some instances that firms or corporations have paid indemnity to people who have sustained injury. This does not remove the cause and the danger still exists. If the managers of these plants would give the same attention to the prevention of accidents as they do to increase of production, there would be no need of a law on this subject; but unfortunately this is rarely done.

In the absence of interest in this matter on the part of many of our factory owners and the apparent necessity of the State taking some action, I recommend that a system of factory laws be enacted and established making provision for the prevention of accidents, such as guarding all dangerous machinery, shafting, belting, elevators, etc., and empowering the Commissioner of Labor or Factory Inspector to make suggestions and recommendations pertaining thereto.

From the Clipping Bureau and other sources we have the account of many fatal boiler explosions, and I deem it of importance to call your attention to this subject, in order that something may be done by our present Legislature to guard against the possibility of accidents from this cause, and to stop the too frequent careless handling of steam boilers. Those who are interested in this matter, and have made an intelligent study of this subject, can find no reason why the State should not come to the rescue and supervise this matter. Chapter 89, of the Acts of 1897, relative to this question, serves no purpose, and is a dead letter upon our statute books, as evidenced a few months ago, in the city of Wheeling. I earnestly protest against the employment of incompetent men for engineers. This is a feature which enters the problem of accidents, which should not be lost sight of. The Commissioner, who is himself, an experienced engineer, informs me that he has known men and boys in charge of steam plants, who knew no more about the power of steam or the capacity of boilers, than the boilers knew



about them. This unfortunate condition of things, however, exists mostly in the small plants, where they want to avoid the cost of a skilled or practical man. There can be no doubt in the mind of anyone, having the least knowledge of steam plants, that they are operated in an unsafe and dangerous manner, and calls for State inspection; but it is a question in my mind if State inspection of steam plants would entirely eliminate the danger, for the reason that there are as many dangerous engineers as there are dangerous plants. The one in charge is responsible for the conditions, consequently a safe steam plant becomes a dangerous one as soon as a dangerous engineer is placed in charge. Therefore, I would recommend that the present law relative to stationary engineering, as prescribed by chapter 89 of the Acts of 1897, be abolished, and in place thereof would recommend the establishment of a State Board of Examiners for all stationary engineers and others having charge of steam generating apparatus, within the State of West Virginia.

It is very important that some provision be made to secure the safety of the people who are employed in large buildings, in the event of fire. Many of the buildings are four and five stories high, and often on the upper floors the busiest work rooms are found; perfect bee-hives of industry. Fifty to one hundred boys and girls are often found here, with no other means of exit than the stairways, and should a fire originate in the lower apartments, there would be no avenue of escape for the employees on the upper floors, except the windows, thirty, forty, fifty and sixty feet from the ground. Instances of this sort are on record, and some provision should be made for the safety of these people. Therefore, I would recommend that all buildings two stories high or more, where labor is employed, be equipped with fire escapes on the outside of the buildings, in easy access for the use of the employees, in event of fire.

The greatest modern evils, relating to the work of women and children, have arisen in connection with what has come to be known as the "sweating" system or tenement house system of labor. This "sweating" is largely confined to the manufacture of tobacco, cigars and clothing in tenement houses. The evils of this system arise from the long hours, unhealthy conditions fostered for the workers and the disease bearing products prepared under these conditions for the public.

"Sweating" does not exist to any appreciable extent as yet in West Virginia, but laws should be enacted to prevent its obtaining a foothold in the larger cities of the State. To this end the manufacture of tobacco, cigars and clothing should be prohibited in any room in a tenement house used for the ordinary purposes of living.

The strained relations now unfortunately existing between capital and labor, and which seems to be a menace of the future, threaten a more severe strain upon the social fabric than it is likely to be called upon to endure from any other source. We find to-day, as never before in the world's history, a tendency toward organization and concentration. Great corporations with millions of capital are extending their arms to all parts of the country and controlling the industrial destinies of the Nation; and through their influence competition is reduced in every line of business. It can be easily understood, therefore, that when differences arise between employers and employees, that the working man is placed at great disadvantage, realizing with capital, that unity alone could give them strength, the laboring people have combined in federations and unions for mutual protection.

But it is a mistake to think that the idea of one is the annihilation of the other, and it becomes necessary to surround this organization of capital and labor with a soothing influence where there is a difference of opinion between them, and the usual methods employed have failed to bring about a satisfactory agreement between the factions. Closely allied to the labor question and considered by many to be its only practical and permanent solution, is arbitration of disputes arising in the industrial world. The greater the number of strikes and lock-outs, the greater the loss to the employers and employees. The weeks of enforced idleness which a strike necessarily brings, the closing down at great expense of factories, mines and workshops, bring both the employers and employees to a full realization of the fact that some peaceable means must be employed that will prevent the great loss of money on both sides alike, and the misfortune which such loss produces.

Not alone are employers and employees interested in this question, but the public at large who are frequently inconvenienced and harrassed by the wide-spread and disastrous strikes and boycotts. It will, therefore, be seen that if any measure is

advanced which will tend to lessen evils so apparent from these disturbances, we should advocate them in common interest. Therefore, I recommend friendly arbitration as a means to be employed for a settlement of all industrial disputes arising between capital and labor in West Virginia.

#### EIGHT HOUR LAW.

In view of the large number of men employed in West Virginia and in all the States of the Union, and owing to the large number of labor-saving machines now in active operation, and many other well known causes, which are constantly reducing the opportunities for the employment of our people, whereby they can earn an honest living by honest toil, I most earnestly recommend the enactment of a law by which eight hours shall be regarded as a working day throughout the State of West Virginia.

#### MINING INDUSTRIES.

The growth of the mining industry in this State during the past sixteen years has been so rapid that the public mind has barely kept abreast of the phenomenal development in the staple commerce of this State. Since the establishment of this department, the State's annual product of coal has increased over eleven million tons; two hundred more mines have been opened, and 17,000 more men find employment at the mines.

With this increased tonnage, and with 24,000 men now employed, it is but a natural course in events that many persons will be both injured and killed. The records confirm this, and to an alarming extent. In 1883, six thousand men were employed and 2,805,566 tons of coal were dug with a loss of twenty men, or one man for each 140,278 tons of coal produced; in 1890, 11,300 men were employed in the production of 4,183,286 tons of coal, with a loss of 13 men, or one man for each 321,791 tons. In 1893, the mines had increased in number to two hundred, and 17,000 men were employed in the production of 9,758,991 tons of coal with a loss of seventy-two men killed, or one man killed for each 135,542 tons produced. In 1895, the number of men killed was 83, or one for each 119,013 tons of coal mined; in 1896, there were sixty-four men killed, or one man for each 188,476 tons of coal mined; in



1897, sixty-two men were killed, or one for each 186,643 tons, and in 1898, there were eighty-seven men killed, in the production from over 300 mines of 14,294,865 tons of coal, or one man killed for each 164,308 tons of coal produced. In fact, during the past six years, 427 men have found death at the mines in this State, and the records show that a great many of these might have been prevented had certain regulations been observed.

The mines in the State now number over 300, and their combined capacity is 20,000,000 tons of coal per year.

A careful study has been made of the causes of accidents, as may be observed from the two reports made to me by the Chief Mine Inspector, whose opinion is, as well as the opinion of each of the District Inspectors, that it is necessary to enact some specific laws regulating the conduct of persons employed in the mines of this State, in order to further add to the safety of the men, and reduce the number of fatalities.

During the past two years, the Chief Mine Inspector informs me, there have been nine accidents due to carelessness in handling powder in the mines; one hundred accidents by the mine cars, killing eighteen men; 179 accidents due to falls of slate, killing 82 men, and one fatality by a gas explosion. Of the eighty-seven persons killed the past year, there were only seven inquests held in the State. Inquests should always be held upon each death resulting from accidents in the mines.

The four District Inspectors have each about seventy-five mines to inspect, and to visit each mine four times per year, occupies all of their time. Many suggestions are made by the inspectors for the prevention of accidents, but by reason of there being no law to enforce such suggestions, they are infrequently complied with.

The ventilation of some of the mines is defective, and to remedy this, I am informed, the break-throughs in the mines should be placed with more regularity, and at some specified distance.

The oil used in many mines, the Chief Inspector informs me, produces excessive volumes of smoke, much to the discomfort of the miners.

The method of timbering in many mines is also defective, and needs adjustment.

It is believed that the condition of the mines and the welfare

of the employees will be much improved by amending certain sections of our mining laws, and by adding a few new sections.

There are working in small mines in this State upwards of 500 men, who do not have the protection of mine laws. This appears to be class legislation, and the laws should include all mines in which men risk their lives.

To accomplish the desired results, the Chief Mine Inspector has framed a few amendments to our present laws in the nature of specific laws or rules, which it is believed will very materially add to the safety of the mines, and promote the health of men working in the mines, and at the same time, entail no unnecessary expense upon the miners or operators. Such amendments as have been referred to above, may be found in detail in the Chief Mine Inspector's annual report, and I urge their adoption.

The contingencies of this department require a more liberal appropriation in order to properly execute the laws and to place this department on a par with similar departments of other States. At this writing, there are no funds available for any of the expenses of this department, and it has been necessary for the Chief and the District Inspectors to use their private funds in order to comply with the duties required of them by the law; and the Chief Mine Inspector has had to give his personal note for funds which were essential to meet the emergencies of this department.

Shall our State's greatest industry be permitted to longer suffer? The Legislature alone can answer this important question.

#### GAME AND FISH LAWS.

The last session of the Legislature wisely enacted a law for the proper preservation of the game and fish of the State; but the Warden has been unable properly to enforce it on account of several existing weaknesses or deficiencies, which I trust may be provided during the present session. On the whole the law is a good one, and compares favorably with similar laws in other States.

The State of New York appropriates from \$60,000 to \$75,000 annually for the propagation of fishes and game, and their protection. Pennsylvania, Michigan and Ohio nearly as much. West Virginia has appropriated comparatively nothing for this

purpose; and yet the natural adaptation of this State for game and fish is not excelled by any other State in the Union. For a satisfactory execution of our game and fish laws, the office of Game and Fish Warden should be made a salaried office, with actual traveling expenses, with power to deputize at his pleasure wherever needed. The jurisdiction of the deputies should extend only to their respective counties, and their pay should come from convictions secured by them; and they should be required to make to the Warden verified reports.

The existing laws should, I beg to suggest, be changed and modified as follows:

1. A law should be passed, prohibiting the emptying or throwing of saw-dust, or any other poisonous or deleterious substance destructive to fish, into any of the waters of this State.

2. The penalty for dynamiting should be changed to fine or imprisonment, instead of "fine and imprisonment," as it now reads.

3. By an oversight in drafting section 11 of chapter 30, of the Acts of 1897, quail, or Virginia partridge, are not protected at any time of the year after the interdicted period of two years, which ends July 22, 1899. This should be remedied.

Valuable services were rendered by Captain E. F. Smith, former Game and Fish Warden, practically without compensation. A statement of time given to this work and expenses necessarily paid out by him, while in the line of duty, will be presented to you with a view of asking a special appropriation to pay him for services rendered. Of my own knowledge, I can assure you that he rendered faithful and valuable service to the State, for which he received no compensation. The same is in all respects, true of Frank Lively, Esq., the present Warden. He, too, should be paid a reasonable compensation for his work in enforcing this particular law.

#### NECESSITY FOR A FIREPROOF BUILDING.

I am impressed with the necessity of greater security for the preservation of our State records than we now possess. While it is true that our present capitol building is comparatively new, yet, no one will presume to claim that it is at all secure from the ravages of fire. Every State officer has an alleged fire-proof vault connected with his office; and yet, if the building



were to burn, it is more than likely that these so-called fire-proof rooms would prove inadequate to stand against the pressure of the flames.

The records in the offices of the Auditor and Treasurer are of incalculable value to the people of the State; and I am perfectly confident that these records would be totally destroyed, or at best, would be so injured and defaced as to render them worthless, if the building were burned.

The State library and the books, records and curios in the Historical Society could not possibly be saved in the emergency of a fire. Even if only a partial or ordinary fire should occur in the building, the injury from water alone would produce a total loss of the library, and the valuable effects now contained in the Historical Society of the State.

Another fact is also patent to all who are familiar with the situation in the Capitol building, namely: There is scarcely an office in the building that is not cramped. The State is growing rapidly, and the business connected therewith is increasing proportionately. More room for each of the State officials, in a very short period, will be an absolute necessity. It is, therefore, important to begin preparations for this emergency; and it impresses me that early preparations should be made in this direction. Moreover, we owe it to the people to immediately take proper steps to provide against possible losses of our records by fire.

I therefore recommend the purchase of a lot of ground, of suitable dimensions, upon which a three-story fire-proof building can be erected for the use of the Auditor and Treasurer's offices on the first floor, the law library and Supreme Court Judges on the second floor, and the Historical Society on the third floor.

Real estate is now quite low in value in Charleston, and building materials and labor can be commanded at astonishingly cheap figures. Such a building and grounds can be procured at a sum not exceeding \$60,000, which would be a credit to the State, and which cost would be an insignificant sum when compared with the security and advantages it will bring to all concerned.

I trust, therefore, that you will take this matter under serious consideration. Many of the States have provided fire-proof buildings of this character, independent of their capitols, wholly

as precautionary measures to preserve valuable records in case of unexpected conflagrations.

#### THE W. VA. HISTORICAL AND ANTIQUARIAN SOCIETY.

This institution deserves the favorable consideration and liberal support of your body.

The organization of the Society, in 1891, relieved the State from the odium of being the, then, only State in the Union without a Historical Society.

The beginning was small, and the progress at first, necessarily slow. The members contributed a little money and a few books, relics, curios, etc.; from their own private libraries and cabinets; and they were given the use, temporarily of one of the committee rooms in this building.

When the State exhibits at Chicago were brought back here, they were turned over to the care and keeping of this Society; and the Legislature put in their charge a number of valuable government books, State reports, etc., for which there was no room in the State library room.

With these valuable acquisitions the Society was given the use of the largest room in the building, formerly used as an armory.

For several years past, your body has voted them certain sums of money for current expenses, and to aid in purchasing books, relics, etc., and carrying out the general purposes of the Society. The members and executive officers of the Society have worked "con amore." No salaries have been paid except a moderate one for librarian.

The State has reserved title to everything it has turned over to the Society, and the Society has formally conveyed to the State their title to all their present collection of whatever kind, (except loans made to the Society), everything they may hereafter acquire (except loans), so that, whatever your body may do for the Society, you will be doing virtually for the State, as the State is the sole and entire owner of everything the Society now has or may hereafter acquire, (except loans).

Those who have not been familiar with the growth of the Society's collection, will, upon visiting their room now, be surprised to see what the energy and activity of the Society has accomplished.

Their collection is now an exceedingly varied, interesting and

valuable one. It has filled their large room to overflowing, and the crowded condition of their present exhibits and the constant accessions being made, render the necessity for more room imperative.

The present quarters are entirely unsuitable in many respects, for the great and growing importance of this Society, its work and its collections. The room is on the third floor and is accessible with more or less difficulty and labor, and as this building is by no means a fire-proof structure, the whole collection is in constant danger of destruction by fire; and this danger is all the more felt from the fact that the most valuable articles in the collection are of such a character that no satisfactory insurance can be had upon them. Insurance companies pay losses on intrinsic values; but how would you fix the intrinsic value of an autograph of Washington, Jefferson, Madison, Monroe, LaFayette, Ben Franklin, Daniel Boone and others of like character, or of old and valuable books, maps, etc., out of print, and not to be had at any price, or interesting relics and curios, impossible to replace?

Few of these things have much of what the insurance companies call intrinsic value, but their sentimental and aesthetic value is very great. To illustrate:

A year or so ago, a gentleman from Kentucky, and a member of the Kentucky Historical Society, was in the rooms of our Historical Society, and saw an autograph report of a survey made by Daniel Boone, in this valley, in 1791. Wishing his Society to possess so interesting a relic of the brave old pioneer who founded the great State of Kentucky, this gentleman asked if our Society would part with the relic; he was told no, that it was not for sale. Pressing the matter, he asked if we would take \$100 for it; again he was assured that it was not on the market. He then asked if \$500 would tempt us, and when the answer was the same he said: "Well, if you will make me an offer at, not exceeding \$1,000, and give me a ten days option, to see and consult our Society, I think we would buy it;" but he had to leave without the option. An insurance company might, possibly, be willing to pay five cents as the intrinsic value of this report, signature, frame and glass.

In view of the valuable work the Society has done, is doing, and is expected to do in the future, in the interests of the State; in view of their urgent need of more accessible, roomy and bet-



ter arranged quarters, and in view of the constant danger to which their valuable library and general museum are now exposed, I recommend that your body adopt the suggestion I have made to erect a fire-proof building for the occupancy, uses and purposes of this Society, and for other purposes therein stated.

The importance and necessities of the case justify such an appropriation; the condition of our treasury fully warrants it, and I feel sure the public will appreciate it.

#### A BOARD OF PARDONS.

The State has become too populous for the pardoning power to be lodged wholly in one man. There should be a Board of Pardons with the Governor as final arbiter, as in the older and more populous States. The Constitution of our State lodges the pardoning power wholly with the Governor, and it is contended by some that the creating by the Legislature of a Board of Pardons, would, therefore, be unconstitutional. To follow the strict letter, and not the spirit of the Constitution, such conclusion might be tenable. But a bill can be so framed, I am inclined to believe, that will not be unconstitutional. If a Pardon Board were created, the Governor could be made the final arbiter, so that no pardon could be granted by the Board which is not fully approved by the Governor, and thus, in point of fact, he would still hold complete control over any and all pardons which might be recommended by the Board.

If such a law were enacted, it would relieve the Governor of a vast amount of work and responsibility, and I am sure would prove more satisfactory to the people.

No one, unless he has passed through the ordeal of hearing pardon arguments, and being forced under existing law to pass upon all applications for executive clemency, can appreciate this matter. However careful, honest and judicious an executive may be, he is invariably attacked for whatever he may do, and his motives are often impugned. This is unjust and wrong, and the only relief that I can conceive of lies in a legal Board of Pardons.

While it is true that I have extended clemency to quite a goodly number of unfortunates, it is also a fact that I reject ten, or more, applicants for every one who receives recognition. I have released no one from the penitentiary except upon the most careful examination of all the facts involved in each case, and

thus fully satisfied my mind that relief should be granted. I have been amazed in many instances, by a careful examination of the evidence, to find men incarcerated in our State penitentiary upon evidence, which in my judgment, was wholly insufficient to convict them. Under such circumstances I have invariably granted prompt relief.

There is also another class of cases, which lawyers and courts class as "close cases." These cases require much earnest work by a Governor who is, as in our State, the sole pardoning power. The evidence must be carefully gone over, and the Judges and Prosecuting Attorneys must be consulted. In no instance have I ever granted clemency in cases of this sort, without the unqualified recommendations of the Judges and State Prosecutors. Indeed, I may add, that I have never, except in very few instances, pardoned any one unless his application was indorsed by the Judge, Prosecuting Attorney and Jury who convicted him. I regard this as a safe rule to be governed by, and I have rarely deviated from it. The Judge, Prosecuting Attorney and Jury who tried the case certainly should know more about the real merits of it than I could possibly acquire; consequently I depend almost wholly upon them to guide me in my action in granting pardons.

There is still another class of cases which frequently come before me, namely, where new and important evidence has been discovered after the trials took place. If this "newly discovered evidence," as the law-books term it, had been introduced at the trials, the verdicts doubtless would have been different. Such evidence comes before me in the form of affidavits, and after satisfying myself that the affiants are responsible persons, I receive them as proper evidence in the cases, and give them due weight and consideration. This, of itself, often brings undue criticism upon the pardoning power. A newspaper representative may be present at a trial, and the case is a plain one. The party is convicted, and he is subsequently pardoned. His pardon is based wholly upon newly discovered evidence, but no consideration is given to this fact, because it is unknown to the public; yet the pardoning power is grossly and improperly censured, and a false motive is impugned for the release of the party.

The best way out of all this trouble, is the creation of a Board of Pardons, which I trust, can be done without undue infringe-

ment upon the Constitution of the State, because, as I have said before, the approval of the Governor will still be essential to give force and effect to the action of the Board, and the Governor, therefore, will still hold, in effect, the power to pardon, as required by the plain provisions of the Constitution.

#### EXPENSES OF EXTRADITING PRISONERS.

No little confusion has arisen the past year over the payment of the extradition expenses of persons fleeing from justice to other States. The custom for many years past has been to pay bills of this sort out of the general criminal fund; but the law is indefinite upon this matter. The law simply states that the Governor "may pay such expenses out of his civil contingent fund." This would be all right, if said fund was large enough to meet this outlay, along with the other necessary demands upon it. If your honorable body adopts my suggestions to make a definite appropriation to pay the capitol labor force, this civil contingent fund can be used in payment of the expenses incurred in bringing fugitives back to West Virginia to be tried for crimes committed. If, however, this is done, the law should nevertheless be amended so as to pay all extradition expenses out of the general criminal fund.

#### CHAPLAIN TO THE PENITENTIARY.

I desire to call your attention to the needs of a regular chaplain to our State Prison. Hitherto, the local ministers of the city of Moundsville have kindly served the prison as best they could, in the way of preaching to the prisoners, advising them as to their spiritual interests, administering the rite of baptism, and in a general way urging them to reform and live better lives. But, in my judgment, the State ought to employ a regular chaplain for the prison. Other progressive States have such an officer—one who is always present, and with whom the prisoners can freely converse. We should have such an officer, who will give his entire time to this important work; and in the interest of good morals, good government and religion, such an officer should be provided by law. His salary need not be large. The State is fully able to meet this small expense in order to keep itself abreast of the times, and do its full duty in imparting moral and spiritual information to its criminal classes.



## PROVISIONS FOR INDIGENT CHILDREN.

I think it is apparent to everyone that our State is deficient in its provisions for the care of indigent and helpless children. We have no "Children's Home" for this purpose. There is a chartered institution of a State character, which attempts, at private expense, to meet this want. But it cannot be as effective as it ought to be without some sort of State backing. Its purpose is to find homes for orphans and such other children as may need the aid of charitably disposed people. Our eleemosynary institutions, such as poor-houses, which we have in all of our counties, are crude and in most cases, antiquated and poorly kept; and as a general rule, all those who by misfortune or disease are compelled to seek their forbidding and inhospitable shelter, are compelled to leave all hope behind. In nearly every poor-house in the State are bright, hapless children, who have the blood and material in them to make useful citizens if they were removed from the corrupting and debasing influences of their surroundings; but they are too young and tender to be self-supporting, and yet old enough to receive the impressions always gotten in the haunts of misery and dens of vice.

The remedy that I have in mind is the enactment of a statute empowering the county courts or county commissioners of the various counties, to place with the Children's Home Society, or some similarly planned organization of the State, to be provided in the Act, all children under the age of twelve years, who are of sound bodies and minds; requiring said Society, or its properly authorized agents, to place and procure for each child in a certain specified time, a proper and suitable home in some good family, who may, if desired, adopt it, and empowering said court or commissioners to pay said Society reasonable charges and expenses for procuring such home. This, I believe, would not only be a great saving to the various counties, but would also be the means of lifting many a helpless one from misery, degradation and shame to a position, possibly, of comparative usefulness and happiness for the future.

## CRIMINAL SLANDER AND LIBEL.

I hope your honorable body will not misconstrue my motive in calling your attention to the fact that West Virginia should have a clearly defined statute on the subjects of slander and li-

bel. Many of the States make the deliberate assassination of personal character a criminal offense. This should, in my opinion, be the law of all the States. One's good name, personal reputation and private character, should be classed on a level with his life. The law of all the States says the assassin shall be prosecuted criminally. The same law should say that the assassin of character ought also to be prosecuted criminally. It is not my purpose to infringe in the least upon the rights of free speech and a free press. This is a free country, and every citizen should be allowed to express himself freely, either *viva voce*, or in print. But there should be a law in every State preventing everyone from wilfully and deliberately attacking the private, personal character of another, without just cause. As the law now stands, there is no remedy for these attacks, except in the civil courts. In most instances, this is no remedy at all, for the reason that the majority of the persons who indulge in wholesale, unjustifiable and uncalled for abuse of another, are without financial responsibility, and a civil suit for damages would necessarily prove futile.

Men in public positions are just subjects for criticism. The genius of our free institutions rightly allows such procedure. When a public officer neglects or exceeds his authority, he ought to be criticised and held to public scorn. No one will dare to withhold this right from private individuals or public newspapers. In fact, it is their duty thus to act. But when an individual or a newspaper deliberately and wilfully attempts, without cause, to assassinate the character of an officer or a private citizen, there should be a law which fixes criminal responsibility upon him for such act. A law of this sort can result in harming no well meaning citizen, and it certainly will protect the public generally from the machinations of ill-disposed, irresponsible individuals. I hope, therefore, that it will be your pleasure to give thoughtful consideration to this, as I view it, important suggestion.

#### THE ELECTION LAW.

The present election law needs radical amendment. The purpose of a ballot is to aid the voter in the expression of his choice for public officers and upon public questions; but the ballot provided by the law as it now is, results in the practical disfranchisement of hundreds of voters; and these are, by no means,

ignorant voters. The method of preparing the ballot is illogical. Re-counts by county courts should be stopped, and many other features of our present law need amendment. I beg especially to call your attention to Senate Bill No. 161, introduced into the Senate of the last Legislature, as, in the main, a wise measure. It was very carefully prepared, and thoroughly considered by several very capable gentlemen. It is based largely on the very excellent laws of Ohio and New York. Among its provisions are a simple and plain ballot, the provisions for more parties on election boards at each precinct, and at each county seat, as well as the burning of the ballots after they are counted by the precinct election officers. This latter provision will stop the recounts by county courts, which have disgraced the State in the past.

#### IRREDUCIBLE SCHOOL FUND.

Under our present Constitution a special fund was set apart for educational purposes, known as the "Irreducible School Fund." This fund has been made up mainly out of the sales of school lands, or rather public lands, belonging to the State, which, when sold, the proceeds must be applied to the enlargement of this fund. It is also provided that the interest only shall be used for educational purposes. The Fund now amounts to \$927,993.21, \$656,800.00 of which has been invested by the Board of the School Fund, in 5 and 6 per cent. interest bearing securities, and \$271,193.21 now remains in State bank depositories, which bears interest at the rate of three per cent. per annum.

As the Constitution now stands, the principal of this fund can never be used for any purpose. The object in establishing this particular fund, seems to have been to lay up money for the education of children of coming generations of West Virginians. I have never been able to comprehend why we should lay aside money to educate the children of the future. When we compare the advantages in education which we enjoyed twenty-five years ago, with those now enjoyed by our children, we are struck with absolute amazement over the headway we have made in educational work. We have every reason to believe that the next twenty-five years will bring with them still greater facilities and greater progress along these lines. Each succeeding generation will, as a matter of course, be better pre-



pared to provide for itself in educational matters than the present and the past have done. Why, then, shall we pile up money by present taxation to educate coming generations? This, to my mind, is not only improper, but it seems to me ridiculous. It appears to me that all the available funds within our reach should be used in educating our present youth. Let each succeeding generation provide for itself. This impresses me as the common sense course to pursue.

I, therefore, earnestly recommend your honorable body to submit to the people an amendment to our Constitution, directing the distribution of this large fund, in reasonable annual installments, until the same is consumed. If this were done, it will increase the school period from one to two months in every school district within the State, and will necessarily be of great advantage to our children who are now of the proper age to attend the public schools.

### IMMIGRATION.

When I consider the natural advantages our State can offer to the settler in an agricultural way; as well as in the vastness of our minerals and other resources, I cannot but feel that we make a mistake in not having a thoroughly equipped immigration bureau, with a well paid officer in charge of the same. We have a State immigration agent, but no appropriation has hitherto been made, either for his salary or expenses, and the result is that he has been of but little value to the State in inviting settlers to come among us, notwithstanding the fact that he has done the best he could under the circumstances that surrounded him. I hope the law will be so amended as to render this office of real value to the State.

### A STATE COMMISSIONER OF REVENUE.

Every thinking citizen knows that West Virginia is annually defrauded out of tens of thousands of dollars of revenue, from improper reports of her property owners in their returns to county assessors. This should be remedied. There should be a uniform assessment upon all grades of personal property. Every one knows that this is not done. It can be done, and ought to be done. Our present law upon this matter is ineffective, because all informers are classed as detectives and their reports

meet with almost universal disfavor. It seems to me that the remedy lies in the creation of an officer known as a "State Commissioner of Revenue," whose duty it shall be to canvass the State, confer with assessors and see that all personal effects of every citizen are properly assessed. Such officer can earn ten or twenty times his salary by requiring proper returns of personal property to be made to assessors for taxation.

### THE POINT PLEASANT MONUMENT.

In February, 1875, the sum of \$3,500.00 was appropriated for the erection of a monument in commemoration of the battle of Point Pleasant, fought between General Andrew Lewis and the Indians in 1775. During your session of 1897, a joint resolution was passed, directing the Governor to appoint three commissioners, whose duty it shall be to take charge of said appropriation, and any other donations which may have been made for that purpose, and proceed to construct said monument.

In accordance with said joint resolution, I appointed Hon. John W. English, one of the Judges of the Supreme Court of Appeals, Hon. F. A. Guthrie, judge of the 7th judicial circuit, and Dr. A. R. Barbee, of Point Pleasant, as said commission. I have received a report from these honorable gentlemen, in which they state they have not undertaken the erection of the monument, mainly for the reason that it is believed that the fund at their disposal is not large enough to construct such a monument as they think should be erected.

They report, moreover that the fund, which had grown to \$7,848.33, was loaned at 6 per cent. interest for the period of three years, on June 1, 1896, which was prior to the passage of the joint resolution above referred to. They further report that there is an additional fund of between \$800 and \$1,000, which is also bearing 6 per cent. interest. These two amounts, adding interest, now aggregate about \$10,000, which amount will construct only an ordinary monument.

The Commissioners, in their report to me, suggest that an appeal be made to the legislatures of Virginia, Ohio and Kentucky for appropriations to aid in this work, for the reason that many of the decedents of those who were engaged in that important battle have made their homes in those States.

While I fully agree with the Commissioners that the present

fund is not sufficient to construct a very commanding structure, yet, it seems to me, that the suggestion they submit will be very difficult to carry into effect.

I have submitted the facts to you so you can take such steps as you may deem proper in the premises.

### STATE PROPERTY AT BERKELEY SPRINGS.

Under an Act of the House of Burgesses of Virginia, passed in 1776, the wonderful springs at the town of Berkeley Springs became the property of the State; in trust. For some reason, this property has never been properly cared for and developed.

A law should be enacted by which the intentions and plans of Lord Fairfax should be successfully carried out.

It is admitted by scientists and experts of all parts of this great country of ours, that these springs have natural advantages unsurpassed, if equalled, in any other state, and they are held in trust by the State and I may say that it is a grave and sacred trust. This trust is now held by a board of directors, who have had it in charge for many years past. Somehow, the property has not developed, at least as I feel that it should have done, when I take into consideration the marvelous medicinal qualities of the water. The great drawback, in my judgment, is the board of directors is too large and too unwieldy.

I, therefore, recommend that the statute be amended, fixing the number of the board at five—one from each congressional district and one at large; or if you deem it better, its management can be transferred to the State Board of Public Works.

At all events, there should be a radical change in its supervision, if it is expected that the property shall reach the standard which Lord Fairfax anticipated, when he donated it to the mother commonwealth one hundred and twenty-two years ago.

### PORTRAITS OF GOVERNORS.

The portraits of governors of this State, now suspended in the Governor's reception room, are of a very inferior character, and are by no means creditable to the State, as to their style and execution. West Virginia is able to pay the necessary expense of having life-sized oil portraits of its governors, and I have no hesitancy in saying that it ought to be done. I, therefore, ask that an appropriation be made for this purpose, and that a



committee be appointed—two from the House and one from the Senate, to carry it into effect; and that the work be done as soon as possible after the adjournment of the Legislature.

#### CAPITOL LABOR FORCE.

It requires in the neighborhood of \$6,000 a year to pay the salaries of the men necessary to keep up the building and grounds, and to take proper care of the different offices in the building. The rule has hitherto been to pay these bills out of the Governor's Civil Contingent Fund.

I beg to suggest that an appropriation should be made to pay the necessary salaries of these men, the same as other legitimate expenses of the State, and that the same be paid out upon the approval of the Board of Public Works, or if you prefer, upon the recommendation of the Governor, as it is now done.

#### REPAIRS OF CAPITOL BUILDING.

The State House needs a general repairing from cellar to dome. New carpets are necessary in the halls of every story of the building. Other improvements are also necessary to properly preserve the building. A largely increased appropriation for these purposes is an absolute necessity. I respectfully ask the appointment of a joint committee to thoroughly look into this matter, and report thereon.

#### ELECTRIC LIGHT PLANT.

I recommend the purchase and construction of an electric light plant for the use of the Capitol building and Governor's Mansion. Such a plant will not cost over \$7,000 to \$8,000. The cost of lighting of the Capitol building amounts to nearly \$4,000 a year. If the State owned its own electric plant, it would cost nothing additional to operate it, and it will pay for itself in, perhaps, less than two years, and at the same time the offices of the building will be much better lighted than they now are. Moreover, a large arc light could be placed at the front entrance of the building, without expense to the State, which light is badly needed and ought to be established whether the State does or does not own its own electric appliances.

#### NEW BOILERS FOR CAPITOL BUILDING.

The boilers in the Capitol building have been in constant use

for twelve years, and they are practically exhausted. When new, these boilers were made of plates one-quarter inch in thickness. They are insured and are inspected every few months. They were carefully inspected but a few weeks since, and the inspector informed me that they are well nigh exhausted. He advises that a new outfit should be purchased as a guaranty of safety to the Capitol building. If new boilers are not purchased, the present ones must be repaired at heavy expense, which, if done, will cost in the neighborhood of the price of new ones. To furnish new ones, you will have to appropriate the sum of \$3,000. It seems to me that economy requires new boilers, instead of repairing the old ones, and incurring the risk of fires, which necessarily result from explosions.

#### FOUNTAIN FOR CAPITOL GROUNDS.

It is apparent to everyone who visits the Capitol grounds, that there should be a large fountain midway between the Capitol building and the street on the west side. The walk way is sufficiently wide to admit of it without in any way interfering with the ingress and egress of pedestrians. Such an appliance would add greatly to the appearance and real value of the property.

I do not ask the Legislature to make an appropriation for this purpose, but I mention it with the hope that some one of our wealthy citizens will see fit to perpetuate his memory by erecting a monument of this character. I sincerely hope that before your body convenes again, you will be cheered and greeted by an ever flowing fountain, whose spray will be the delight and comfort of those who may pass it in the dark as in the light.

#### MANSION PROPERTY.

The Governor's Mansion and grounds are valuable property, and are steadily increasing in value every year. I found it necessary, in order to get the lot in proper shape, to purchase a parcel of ground, 52 feet front on Summers street, extending eastward toward the Mansion, for which I paid \$50 per front foot, or \$2,600 for the lot—or rather I agreed to pay that sum. I paid \$600 in cash on the purchase out of the Governor's contingent fund, and have paid out of said fund \$120 interest on the deferred payment. The value of said lot was fixed, at my

request, by ex-Governor W. A. McCorkle, Malcolm Jackson and Neil Robinson and it is believed by them and by others also to be a reasonable and proper price for the property. It was absolutely essential to have this lot of ground to square up the mansion property, and I accordingly assumed the responsibility of purchasing it. There remains due upon this purchase the sum of \$2,000, with one year's interest at the rate of 6 per cent., for which I respectfully ask a special appropriation.

In this connection, I desire to suggest the purchase of 35 feet more land, fronting on Capitol street, immediately south of the Mansion, and extending westward to Summers street. If this purchase were made, the lot would be in better shape, and would become much more desirable and valuable as well. In my judgment, this purchase should be made at the present session of the Legislature.

I also desire to call attention to the great necessity of enlarging the Governor's Mansion. I had a competent architect prepare a plan with this object in view. The plan will add four large rooms to the building at a cost of \$1,800. Should you direct this to be done, the Summers street front of the Mansion will be much handsomer than the present front on Capitol street. The building is entirely inadequate for present needs. Moreover, the expenditure of \$1,800, upon the building, will increase the actual saleable value of the property more than that amount, so that the State will gain, in the end, by the expenditure, instead of losing by the outlay.

I expended the entire sum allowed by the last Legislature, (\$5,000), in furniture for and improvements of the Mansion property. The building was supplied with new furniture, electric appliances were added, the grounds were carefully graded, and a large number of forest trees were planted upon the lawn. The property has been greatly improved and is now one of the most attractive residences in the city. If the size of the lot were increased 35 feet, as before suggested, and the addition made on the Summers street front, it would be among the most valuable and attractive dwellings in the State.

The furniture in the Mansion is of the very best quality, and will last for years to come.

#### PARIS EXPOSITION.

There will be held in the City of Paris, during the year 1900,



an exhibition of the world's products. This exposition will offer to the States of the American Republic an opportunity to display to the world their natural resources, which they can ill afford not to avail themselves of. Besides assisting individual exhibitors or corporations at this great exposition to show their special productions, it has been arranged by the management to give special attention to a general exposition of the natural resources of each and every State of our great Republic.

West Virginia cannot well afford to be without representation at this great exposition. One or more commissioners, it seems to me, should be sent from our State, and an appropriation should be made for their expenses and the expense also of sending to Paris a proper and creditable exhibit of our wonderful resources.

The dignity and importance of the United States in arts, science and manufactures should be accurately reflected in the character of the exhibits which are to be displayed in the American Section of this great International Exposition, and with this object in view, you are respectfully invited to promote such interest therein as will tend to insure among the American exhibits the best representation of the industries and institutions of the State of West Virginia.

#### OHIO CENTENNIAL EXPOSITION.

There will be held in the City of Toledo, in 1903, a Centennial Exposition of the origin, growth and commerce of this great sister State. Inasmuch as this State borders on West Virginia for three hundred miles, and is separated from it only by the Ohio river, which tells, in its meandering way to the sea, the story of two great States of the foremost republic on the earth, it is not too soon to take proper action to make a proper showing in this proposed exposition. I believe that our West Virginia people have in them the spirit of progress which, if rightly used and conserved, will make the Ohio Valley the greatest valley in the world, and the States bordering upon it the conspicuous States of the Republic. In location, climate, natural resources and possibilities, the States watered by the Ohio river are bound to be, in the near future, the heart of our great government of, for and by the people.

This proposed Exposition must, of necessity, be a truly great affair. We, as a State, should arrange to share in it. I call

your attention to the matter thusearly, so that our people may be educated to properly share in the coming event.

### MARKING LINE BETWEEN WEST VA., MARYLAND AND PENNSYLVANIA.

My attention has been called by the Governor of the State of Maryland to the necessity for a relocation and re-establishment of the boundary monuments of the "Mason's and Dixon's Line," between the States of Pennsylvania, West Virginia and Maryland.

Prof. Henry S. Mitchell, of the U. S. Coast and Geodetic Survey after an investigation of the question and of the existing documents on file in his office, states, under date of November 26th, 1898,—“This evidence shows that the original plan of marking the line by stones, carefully cut and prepared in England, was not carried out. That instead, on the western portion other cut stones were planted and mounds of loose stones were piled around them; that subsequently many of the monuments were displaced, possibly by searchers after treasure. In all likelihood a great many will be found in place. To re-examine and re-establish the old line would be a task of some magnitude, but need not be a very expensive one. It should only be entrusted to persons versed in the higher branches of surveying, and acting under joint authority of the adjoining States, that is, West Virginia, Pennsylvania, and Maryland. While the maintenance of boundary marks once established might be entrusted to county authorities, their re-location by such irresponsible authority would hardly be acceptable to the authorities of a different State.”

It seems necessary, to my mind, that there should be an examination of the condition of the boundary marks on Mason's and Dixon's line.

It would be most economical to combine, under joint states' authority, with such an examination, the re-placing of old marks where necessary, or the substitution of new ones where the old ones are in a state of decay. An engineer commission, with power to act, of three persons, one representing national and the other two the authority of the separate States, would seem to be ample. The result of their work could be submitted to the States concerned, for legislative approval.

I am not prepared to submit an estimate, because much

would depend on circumstances, that is on the present condition of the marks, but I should think that \$10,000 would cover the cost to the three States, leaving out the salaries of the State Commissioners.

Prof. William Bullock Clark, the State Geologist of Maryland, estimates that a fair adjustment of the expense of \$10,000 between the three States would be for Pennsylvania to furnish \$5,000, Maryland \$3,500, and West Virginia \$1,500, which adjustment has been arrived at after an estimated measurement of the length of the line and the proportionate expense for the respective States. Professor Clark states that the re-location of these markers is really a matter of very great importance to the various land interests involved, and that he would be very glad to co-operate with the representatives from Pennsylvania and West Virginia with a view to having the line properly established under the joint supervision of the respective States and the United States.

### CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS.

That the present Constitution badly needs amending is generally conceded. The Legislature, at its last session, appointed a committee to prepare a series of necessary amendments, which have been carefully prepared, and will be submitted to your honorable body for consideration during your present session. This matter is of grave importance to all of our people, and deserves the most serious consideration at your hands.

### REPORT OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL.

The Attorney General is the law officer of the State, and many important legal questions have been referred to him by myself and by the Board of Public Works also. He has acted intelligently, vigorously and properly upon all questions referred to him; and his report will show that he has rendered to the State faithful and efficient service. The State is better off, by many thousand dollars, as a result of his ability and energy. I commend all that he has done, and I am confident that you will approve his actions in his vigorous manner of requiring all parties to account to the people in strict conformity with the requirements of our statutes.



## STATE INSURANCE.

At my instance the Board of Public Works took up the matter of insurance of the property of the State. It was, and is my opinion that we are carrying very much more insurance upon the property of the State than should be carried, considering the cost of the property, and its depreciation by age and "wear and tear." It was also believed that the policies were not carefully written, nor were they, according to insurance rules, properly concurrent. In cases of loss, insurance companies avail themselves of every possible technicality, and in no instance do they ever pay anything above the actual loss by fire. Therefore, to carry excessive insurance is absolute folly. No business man does it, and a State should not do it.

To ascertain all the facts, such as the actual cost of every building belonging to the State, the amount of insurance carried upon each, and the forms of all the policies as written, the Board of Public Works directed me to employ a competent insurance adjuster and underwriter to make the necessary investigations. The agent, thus employed, visited and inspected each State building, ascertained its cost, examined it carefully, copied all the forms of policies written thereon, and gave proper advice and suggestions in the way of preventing fires, and made a detailed report thereon, which report is on file in the office of the Secretary of State.

One of the long-existing conditions which confronted the present administration was this insurance problem. For the purpose of ascertaining the necessary facts, it was deemed advisable to carefully investigate all of the insurance contracts in force, so as to understand the distribution of the insurance with reference to the actual valuation of the property insured, and to correct, if necessary, any existing irregularities.

The following figures will show the condition in which the State's insurance was found, by the investigation above referred to:

Insurance in force .....	\$956,241
Valid (or real) insurance .....	421,503
Void insurance.....	74,750
Excessive insurance .....	459,988

The above insurance cost the State, for the period of three years the sum of \$17,519.94. On this the valid premiums are

\$7,397.69, void premiums \$1,271.50, and excessive premiums \$8,850.75. Or of the entire insurance upon the State's property, it has been ascertained that forty-four per cent. is valid, eight per cent. is void, and forty-eight per cent. is excessive. Besides this, the greatest possible diversity in rating the same class of property among the same physical surroundings, occupied for the same purposes was also found to exist.

It was likewise further ascertained that during the past twenty years, the State has paid to insurance companies for insurance upon its property, an average of about \$5,840 per year, or approximately \$116,800, in aggregate, which with interest at three per cent. for one-half the twenty years, will aggregate \$151,840; while the entire losses paid by insurance companies to the State, during the same period, will not reach, all told, the sum of \$13,000. This shows a loss to the insurance companies of about one and one-tenth per cent. of the premiums paid by the State for its insurance.

Under existing circumstances, the insurance on the State's property should either be revised in a manner justified by its unparalleled history as an insurance element, when considering the small per cent. of losses occurring upon it, or it may be deemed advisable for the State to carry its own insurance hereafter.

The Board of Public Works has deemed it expedient to reduce the amount of insurance upon the State's property to reasonable and proper limits, and has directed that all of the policies shall hereafter be made concurrent.

It has also advised that greater precautions shall hereafter be taken to prevent the occurrence of fires in State buildings, and that reasonable sums of money be set apart for this purpose rather than expend unnecessary funds in excessive insurance.

#### STATE GEOLOGICAL SURVEY.

The commission organized soon after the adjournment of the last session of your honorable body, and employed Prof. I. C. White as State Geologist. Work was begun at once, and has been carried on as rapidly as the appropriation would allow. The report of the commission has been carefully prepared, and will be submitted to you for your consideration. The report gives in detail the work that has been accomplished. I am of

opinion that a Geological Survey of the State should be completed as soon as possible, because it will be of more real value to West Virginia in the way of its development than any other thing that can be done. The Commission, as the report will show, has been greatly hampered because of the smallness of the appropriation for that purpose. Larger appropriations should be made to carry on the work successfully and speedily.

### CONCLUSION.

My prerogative is only of an advisory character. My purpose is to suggest measures which I believe to be for the best interests of all of our people.

In conclusion, I sincerely hope that all you do may be done with an eye single to the advancement and development of our great State. The joint effort of all our people will make West Virginia even greater than she now is, in all that contributes to the well being, prosperity and happiness of all her people.

I wish you a pleasant sojourn at the capital, and sincerely hope that your session will be productive of the highest good to all. It will afford me pleasure to render you all the assistance in my power to enable you to carry forward your deliberations as the law making body of our State.

GEO. W. ATKINSON.

Charleston, W. Va., January 9th, 1899.

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## POLYGAMY.

*Governor Atkinson's Opinion of Polygamy.*

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*January 16, 1899.*

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MISS GRACE J. CUTLER,  
Room 79, No. 160 Nassau Street,  
New York.

DEAR MISS:

I am against polygamy heart and soul. It is wrong in principle, and ought to be stamped out of existence. No man should



have more than one wife at one time. Any man who claims the right to have more than one wife is an enemy of the human family, and is an enemy also to the Christian religion. For more than thirty years I have endeavored to stand with the people of our Country, who believe in good morals, good government, and for the maintenance of good laws, and above all for the protection of the homes of all of our people.

No man should be entitled to more than one wife at one and the same time. He who assumes to marry more than one woman, while he has a living wife, is an enemy of civilization, and is also an enemy of the Christian religion. Such an one is unworthy of the consideration of all decent people. I believe in the sanctity of the home, and above and beyond everything else, I believe in the teachings of the Christian religion.

Please do not misunderstand me. I do not profess to be better than anybody else. What I want to say is, that no man should have plural wives. One wife, while she lives, is enough for any one man on this earth; and he who has more than one wife, at one time, is not my sort of a man, and he ought to be ignored by all decent, well-meaning men and women everywhere.

Very truly yours,  
G. W. ATKINSON,  
Governor of West Virginia.

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## REMARKS

*Of Governor Atkinson at the Opening of the Hospital for Incurables at Huntington, West Virginia.*

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*February 2, 1899.*

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MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN:—

It is not my purpose this evening to attempt more than to deliver a few remarks. This, it seems to me, is an unusually important occasion. We have assembled here in this, one of the

principal business centres of the State, to formally open, and in a sense dedicate the latest and last of our growing State's eleemosynary institutions. The plan of the institution has been adopted, and I must say that it is not only a good one, but it is a great one, and one of the several edifices according to the plan, has been completed, and is now ready for occupancy. The purpose of the law is to establish a home for the people of our State, who are afflicted with incurable maladies, and who are financially unable to care for themselves. Health of body is the chief ingredient of human happiness, and no one appreciates it properly until he goes down in the deep, dark pit of bodily affliction. Then, he stops and thinks and cries for relief and help; and alas! how many of them, when thus stricken, find themselves totally unable to do anything for themselves. The world loves the champion of the weak, the distressed, the unfortunate; and this is why many of the States are providing hospitals for their indigent incurables.

Sometimes men and States are blamed for rendering aid too freely to the hapless and the helpless; but not often, my friends, is this done by intelligent men and women. Some are close-fisted, some are stingy, some are inherently mean; but the great bulk of the people are charitable, honest, liberal. Aristotle having been blamed, on one occasion, for giving alms to an unworthy person, said, "I gave, but it was to mankind." No nation, no people can permanently prosper that make no permanent provision for the sick, the needy and the poor.

Dr. Adam Ferguson, the author of a great book entitled the "Spirit of Laws", a work which must ever be regarded as the production of a most enlightened mind, has built a great deal of plausible and ingenious reasoning on this general idea, that the three distinct forms of government, the monarchical, the despotic, and the Republican, are influenced by three separate principles, upon which the whole system in each form is constructed, and on which it must depend for its support. The principle of the monarchical form is honor; of the despotic is fear; and of the republican, virtue; a position, which, if true, would at once determine to which of the three forms the preference ought to be given in speculating on their comparative degrees of merit. But I am going to add another, my friends, to the third class—the Republic—and that is Charity. A Democratic government, above all others, provides best for its needy and

helpless citizens, and this is why we are here to-night throwing the doors of this, soon to be very great institution, open to that class of our people.

It is not the purpose of the State, in this work, my fellow citizens, like Julian the Apostate, to confiscate the property of the Church, or of any one to carry it forward, and divide the proceeds among the poor as Julian did to provide for their needs, but to tax all proportionately and alike, that the needy and the helpless may advance with more diligence in the paths of virtue and salvation. It is true heroism to do right; and it is right, forever right, for an enlightened State to provide all necessary comforts for its helpless, indigent incurables. This, West Virginia is starting out to do, and God, and all good people helping, she will do it, and do it well.

Bread cast upon the waters will some day return again. I once read a story told by the eminent Father Mathew's biographer of a poor, water-carrier woman in London, who found an infant in a basket one morning at her door. She took it to the good father, who advised her to carry it to the Children's Home, which she did. The next day she returned to the rectory, declaring that she had not slept a wink all night for parting with the infant which God had placed in her way, and insisted that she must have it back again. The child was restored to her. A few years afterwards she became blind, and Father Mathew stated that this hapless child had led her daily for years, as she earned her living by carrying water along the streets of London. I would, my fellow citizens, gladly sacrifice the wealth and power of this wide world to secure to myself the glorious welcome which awaits that poor, blind woman on the great accounting day.

But I must not talk too long. Too much praise cannot be given to the energetic Board of Directors of this the latest of our State, eleemosynary enterprises. At the risk of unintentionally offending all the other members of the Board, I must say that to one person—the president, Mrs. Ruffner—more than to any other citizen or member of the Board, this institution owes its existence to-night. Let us all stand by her faithfully, and its future will be assured. Good citizenship demands this, if it demands no more.



## THE NORTH AND THE SOUTH.

*February 6, 1899.*

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EDITOR "GRIT",  
Williamsport, Pa.

DEAR SIR:

Replying to your courteous inquiry of the 3rd inst., relative to the attitude taken by President McKinley upon his recent trip through the South, I beg to say that I most heartily endorse every one of his published public utterances delivered upon that trip. The time has certainly arrived when we should have no North and no South. I am glad the President is big enough, although a soldier in the late Union Army, to lose sight of where the North ends and the South begins. The late War with Spain has brought the two sections of our country very much closer together. I am a Virginian, and naturally have a warm feeling for the Southern people. I am, nevertheless, a Republican in politics. I sincerely hope that many more of the large, broad thinkers of the Republican party will come up to President McKinley's standard relative to sectionalism in our Republic. The South is the richest part of our country in natural resources, and, sooner or later, it will be so established. I have always stood for both the North and the South, and shall continue so to stand.

Very truly yours,

G. W. ATKINSON,  
Governor.

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## FIRST W. VA. VOLUNTEERS.

*Governor Atkinson pays a High and Deserved Compliment to the Returning Soldiers of that Regiment.*

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(From *Wheeling Daily Intelligencer*, Feb. 15, 1899.)

CHARLESTON, W. VA., Feb. 14.—Few regiments in the United States volunteer service during the war with Spain have re-

ceived a higher compliment than this, which was paid by Governor Atkinson, to the First West Virginia regiment. In an interview, discussing the return of the regiment, the Governor said:

"When the country called for volunteers to defend the flag, our young men climbed over one another to get into the army. When the President asked me for a full regiment of volunteers to fight the Spaniards, it was not a question with me as to who should go, or who could go to the front, but who could not go. We could only send one Regiment under the call, and I really needed a full regiment of able-bodied soldiers to protect me from keeping the whole fighting force of the State out of the army. I promptly decided that the first regiment of volunteers should be made up from our State troops, and that outsiders should not apply. The first call for volunteers was accordingly made up from our State guard. The boys went, and they filled the bill. They proved themselves—officers and privates—worthy of the trust. Upon every test, they were first class. They could not be otherwise. The regiment was composed of our very best young men. The officers were men of military training. They were educated as to their duties. They knew what would be required of them; they knew their business, and they acquitted themselves like men.

"On more than one occasion I talked with the Secretary of War, and the Adjutant General of the Army, as to the real merits of our First Regiment of volunteers, and both of them admitted to me that there was no superior regiment of volunteers in the entire service. This I expected, because I knew our boys officers and men.

"I wish you would say to the people of West Virginia, for me, that I am justly proud of the record that this regiment has made in the Spanish war. They have acquitted themselves honorably and well, and they are entitled to the thanks and the praise of every true West Virginian, and of every true American, as well. They leave the service of their country, at the command of the President, because their services are no longer needed, with a record second to no other volunteer regiment in the army, and with a crown of laurels which will cluster around them forever more. They are true men, true patriots, true Americans, and all true West Virginians will honor them while they live, and our children's children will honor them after they are gone. May God bless our First West Virginia boys."

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(Editorial, Wheeling Intelligencer.)

In an interview elsewhere published, Governor Atkinson pays an eloquent tribute to the First West Virginia volunteer regiment, officers and men, incident to their return from the service. What he says is all true, for the records of the war department bear him out. No regiment in the volunteer service stood higher in all particulars. West Virginia has reason to be proud of this fact, and will heartily agree with the Governor that the regiment has "acquitted itself honorably and well, and is entitled to the thanks and praise of every true West Virginian."

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## SPECIAL MESSAGE.

*Special Message From the Governor.*

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*February 20, 1899.*

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EXECUTIVE CHAMBER,

CHARLESTON, W. VA., February 20, 1899.

TO THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,

GENTLEMEN:

I believe all of you will agree that I have not sought in any way to influence legislation, except indirectly by consultation with individual members, as they have called upon me.

In my message to your honorable body, at the opening of the present session, I directed your attention to the danger and possible loss, by fire, of our public records, libraries &c., and respectfully asked that a reasonable appropriation be made for the construction of a fire-proof building for the better security of the same.

Your honorable body promptly recognized the importance of the suggestion, and took proper steps to secure the same. A scare—and only a scare—came along in the shape of an effort to remove the capital from Charleston, where the people by a majority vote had located it permanently, and as a result of such scare, the movement to construct such fire-proof building, was almost immediately dropped.

It is not my purpose to present an argument in favor of any



particular place for the seat of Government for the State, but it is my purpose to again call your attention to the necessity for a safer deposit for our public records than we now have.

I therefore again ask your special attention to this very important matter, and I again urge you to carry out the suggestions presented in my message to you at the beginning of your present session upon this, to my mind, all important subject.

A fire in the Capitol building will be a public calamity. No one knows when it may come. All of us, who are familiar with the construction of the State-house, know what the result will be, if a conflagration should occur. A few thousand dollars properly expended in the way of reasonable preservatory measures, may save the State an incalculable loss.

Last Saturday, I directed the janitor to remove all waste and combustible substances from every portion of the building, as a proper precautionary measure. It may be that the building will never burn, and it may occur at any time.

I again urge upon you the importance of ordering the construction of a suitable fire-proof building for the safe keeping of all of our important public records. The burning of the Capitol of Kentucky, a few days ago, and the loss of that State's records should be a warning to us.

Your most obedient servant,

G. W. ATKINSON,  
Governor.

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## VETO

*By Governor Atkinson of Court House Removal Bill.*

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*February 21, 1899.*

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HOUSE BILL NO. 201.

A BILL to amend and re-enact section fifteen of chapter thirty-nine, of the Code of West Virginia, as amended and re-enacted

by chapter thirty-one, of the Acts of one thousand eight hundred and ninety-five.

(February 6th, 1899,—By Mr. Bee. Referred to Judiciary Committee. February 8—Reported back with the recommendation that it do pass. Passed Feby. 18, 1899.)

This Bill is returned without approval, for the reason that the closing paragraph of the same is clearly in conflict with the Constitution of the State. The language of the Bill to which I specially object is as follows: "Provided, however, That where the people of any county have voted on a question of relocating the county seat, no vote on a like question shall be taken within five years thereafter. And this shall apply to county seat elections held prior to the passage of this act, as well as to such elections held thereafter."

There is no doubt in my mind that this provision abridges the rights of the people in the several counties of the State, as well as the County Courts thereof, to properly control county business and county affairs. It is the indisputable, inalienable and indefeasible right of the people, under our Constitution, of all the counties of our State, to reform, alter or abolish their own fiscal and police affairs, as well as to control all other matters pertaining to the interests of the people in the several counties of the State, in such manner as shall be judged most conducive to the public weal. To abridge these rights, therefore, in my judgment, is clearly unconstitutional.

While this act purports to be one of a general nature, it is in effect an act for a special purpose, and as such, forbidden by the Constitution, See Section 39, Article 6; also case of Groves et al. v. County Court of Grant County, 42 West Virginia Reports, page 587.

Moreover, the section of the Bill above quoted, is retrotractive, and is therefore necessarily *ex post facto*, because it is made to apply to elections held prior to the passage of the Act. It is my duty, in consequence of the manifest existence of these facts to veto the same.

G. W. ATKINSON,  
Governor.

Charleston, February 21, 1899.

## SEMI-VETO

*By Governor Atkinson, of House Bill No. 51—A Bill fixing the Liability of Fire Insurance Companies.*

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TO THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF DELEGATES:—

I cannot but believe that this Bill is contrary to public policy. Instead of proving a benefit to those for whom it was intended, it will, in my judgment, injure them. It only applies to buildings, and not to personal property. I can see no good reason why a statute should require the payment of the face of a policy on a building, and only require the payment of the actual loss on its contents. Why not make the same requirements as to both classes of property? A man is not more likely to over insure the contents of his house than the house itself.

Under this bill, merchants and manufacturers, in case of fire, can only recover the loss actually sustained and no more; and the same is intended to be true of those having insurance upon buildings, in cases of partial losses (but which is not really true), as they, too, can recover only the actual damage done; but if the entire building is destroyed, the full face of the policy must be paid by the insurance company, whether the loss be one-fourth, one-half, or three-fourths the amount of the policy. This is manifestly wrong and unjust.

I cannot construe the following language in this Bill, and I do not believe any one else can determine definitely the intention of its framer. I quote: "The basis upon which said loss shall be computed, shall be the amount stated in the policy of insurance affected upon said property." If the intention was to secure insurance upon the actual value of the property, up to the amount of the policy, then the basis of adjustment should be the actual value of the loss. This language can be construed, and doubtless will be construed, (because practically all partial losses under this Bill will be taken to the Courts), that the amount of insurance upon the property shall represent its full value. In case of loss, under such construction, a house, the actual value of which, is, say \$4,000.00, sustains a loss of \$2,000.00, with \$1,000.00 insurance upon the building, the loss,



in this case, being one-half of the value of the property, the amount to be paid upon the insurance in this case, would, therefore, be one-half of the face of the policy, which is supposed to represent the full value of the property insured. In this instance, the insured, who has paid for \$1,000.00 insurance, under this, which seems to me, reasonable construction of this Bill, the owner of the property insured could only recover one-half of the insurance he had bought, viz: \$500.00, while his actual loss is double the amount of his insurance, or one-fourth of the value of his property. The patrons of this bill never intended anything of this sort, and yet this must be the result when the case comes before a court, where in most cases of partial loss they will surely land.

The object of insurance is to protect one against actual loss, and not to give something for nothing. No honest man should expect to be better off financially after a fire than he was before it occurred. No law, therefore, should ever be enacted that will induce any citizen, who by connivance with agents of insurance companies or otherwise, to insure his property for more than its actual value, knowing that in case of total loss by fire, he would be paid more money than he had actually lost, and knowing also that there can, under this law, be no adjustment of the loss. Such a law, it seems to me, will be a standing bribe to every person dishonestly inclined, who holds insurance upon his property, to willfully destroy the same, in order to make money by the deal.

The operation of this law will certainly destroy the interest which its promoters would have it protect. The "Valued Policy" has not proved satisfactory in the States that have enacted it. It has doubled the opportunities of dishonest people to rob insurance companies, and has increased the rates of insurance upon the property of the honest insurer. Moreover, since no question can be raised by the insurance companies in the adjustment of a total loss, a dishonest man can procure insurance upon his property from a number of companies, at the same time, and in this way law-abiding citizens would fall victims to incendiaries, irresponsible fire insurance companies, and ruinous disasters at the hands of an element, prompted by speculation to enter our State; business will necessarily be injured thereby, and the protection we now enjoy at the hands of responsible insurance companies, especially in country districts,

will measurably cease, for the reason that many of them will entirely withdraw from operations within the State.

A policy of insurance is a contract of indemnity only, and covers the interest of the insured in the property and not the property itself. Let the insured use the same business discretion in placing insurance on his property that he would in other transactions, then the benefits arising from an investment in the form of premiums paid to Fire Insurance Companies would operate as a legitimate protection instead of a speculation, such as I fear the possible operation of the law as expressed in this bill would prove to be.

Insurance companies are conducted on the same basis as other legitimate branches of business. They must secure reasonable interest on their capital invested, and receive proper compensation for the services of those persons who operate them in the legitimate conduct of their business. If the sphere of their operations is narrowed, as this bill will surely bring about, (because insurance companies will not assume risks in country sections which their special agents cannot personally inspect), all persons requiring insurance for protection only, will be required to pay higher rate premiums for protective insurance, and in this way the loss of premiums for insurance in country districts will have to be made up by citizens in the towns and cities, whose properties are accessible and can be inspected by special agents of the insurance companies. The natural result, therefore, of the enforcement of this law will be that the people who insure for protection only, must by increase of rates, make up the loss or fall off in the volume of the business of the insurance companies.

The enactment of a law of this character will inevitably be to the commercial interests of the people of West Virginia a wrong which cannot easily be estimated. It will unquestionably prove to be a menace to business, a bid for incendiarism, a discouragement to legitimate enterprises, an act that will deprive the State of its legitimate revenue, and in its effect prove to be practically a calamity on all well meaning people. The history of this class of legislation wherever it has appeared in sister States, has been one of disastrous experience to the law abiding citizens. It will, if rigorously carried into effect, eliminate responsible Fire Insurance as a protection, and in the end will work the greatest possible wrong to our people at large.

To recapitulate, my objections to the Bill are briefly expressed as follows:

1. It is against public policy.
2. It cannot accomplish the object for which it was intended.
3. It applies only to real estate, and not to personal property, and is, therefore, class legislation.
4. It requires full payment of the face of the policy in case of total loss, without reference to the amount of the actual loss.
5. It is so indefinite as to partial losses, as to require a law suit to determine the result, and will therefore throw into the Courts of the State the determination of practically all the fires on real property insured, unless the loss is total.
6. It requires the adjustment of a loss by the insurance companies before any loss occurs, which is inconsistent, unreasonable and expensive both to the insurance company, and the insured.
7. It offers inducements to people owning houses, to insure them for more than they are worth, and then burn them to recover the insurance.
8. It is an open bid to insurance agents, in order to secure commissions, to conspire with parties securing insurance for the mutual benefit of both parties, to demoralize the people, and at the same time destroy the legitimate business of fire insurance, which experience has shown to be a public necessity.
9. It will necessarily narrow the scope of the operations of legitimate fire insurance companies, and in order that they may be able to carry on a legitimate fire insurance business, the premium rates must be increased upon honest citizens, who, of necessity, must carry insurance.
10. It will drive out of our State many solid and safe insurance companies, that are a public necessity.
11. As all insurance companies pay into the State Treasury two per cent. of their gross incomes, it will defraud the State Treasury out of a large amount of legitimate revenue.
12. "Valued Policy" laws of this character have not proven satisfactory in the States that have tried them, and it seems to me that we ought to profit by the experience of other and older States.
13. The demand for the passage of this law comes in the character of a public clamor, based upon a false idea, and it is



never safe to yield to a clamor of any sort. Such measures always react with terrific force.

14. It will turn loose upon our people a lot of "wildcat" insurance companies, which will write policies on property at any rate and for any amount, and never pay a loss when a fire occurs.

In view of all the facts before me, I cannot, and will not indorse this Bill; but inasmuch as it was passed practically by an unanimous vote of the House of Delegates, and by a decisive majority of the Senate, which reveals to my mind the fact that the people of West Virginia are determined to test the measure; and believing that this sentiment will not down until it has been fully tested by the people, I waive my better judgment by declining to veto the measure, and allow it to have a fair trial by the people,

In doing this, I confess that I will be criticized, but I honestly feel that it is the quickest and best way to determine the matter. I have long since learned that there is no school so effective as the school of experience.

I ask that this protest be spread upon the journals of the Senate and House of Delegates.

G. W. ATKINSON,  
Governor of West Virginia.

Executive Chamber,  
Charleston, W. Va.

Feby. 23, 1899.

NOTE.—The reason that I did not veto this measure outright, was because it would have been passed over my veto, in less than thirty minutes, which would have raised complications I wanted to avoid.

G. W. ATKINSON.

## VETO

*By Governor Atkinson of House Bill No. 217—A Bill to Tax Express Companies, Etc.*

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TO THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF DELEGATES:—

This is a measure of no ordinary importance to the people of West Virginia, as it concerns all who transmit packages through express channels, and I have accordingly given careful attention to the same.

The right of the State to tax express companies engaged in business in this State, upon a fair and equitable basis in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution of the State, cannot be questioned; but the question upon which I am called to pass is whether this bill is equitable in principle and whether it is in conflict with the Constitution of this State, and of the United States. It not only adopts as a basis of taxation the gross receipts of such companies, but Section 4 imposes upon such companies license fees of a burdensome character which do not apply to other foreign corporations of like character, doing business in this State.

1st. It requires every Foreign Express Company to file numerous statements and documents, for each of which is exacted a license fee of five dollars.

2nd. It exacts two dollars for each certificate of authority issued to each agent in charge of each office, station or place to receive or deliver packages or perform the services for such company, and requires such certificate to be renewed annually and as often as a new agent shall be appointed. These license fees are of an arbitrary character, and are based, as I understand it, upon no ideas of the business conducted at the different offices, and will, in the course of a year, amount to a very large and burdensome sum of money to the companies interested, if not to the people who patronize them.

It is in effect levying upon the part of the State a fee upon each individual employed by such companies to conduct a legitimate and necessary business in every civilized community; a business possessing no ordinary characteristics, as I see it, to

justify the exactions of such license fees. Can any good and defensible reason be assigned why any special authority or license should be required on the part of the State to be issued to the agents of an express company any more than to the agents of a railroad company, a steamboat company or any other common carrier, or to any company appealing to the public for its business or patronage? It was evidently done in the case of such express companies not only for the purpose of requiring them to pay a proper tax which I think should be done, but the purpose of the bill goes farther and seemingly forms a basis for the purpose of exacting tribute—a principle of legislation which has always been condemned by all first class civilized countries, and which finds its only refuge and countenance in modern times in the barbarous and cruel exactions of the Spanish nation in dealing with her oppressed colonist and the business conducted by them for the purpose of exacting revenue. So far as my investigation has been conducted on this subject, there is absolutely no warrant or authority in our constitution, or the constitution of the United States, to justify the levying of any such arbitrary tax or tribute.

Our constitution provides that “No one species of property from which a tax may be collected shall be taxed higher than any other species of property of equal value”; and it further provides that “The Legislature shall have power to tax, by uniform and equal laws, all privileges and franchises of persons and corporations.” It cannot be questioned, therefore, that it was the intention of the constitution, by this provision, to require that all exactions from all persons, corporate or otherwise, engaged in similar business partaking of a public character, should alike be required to pay tribute and bear the burdens of taxation upon an equal and equitable basis.

This Bill classifies express companies as common carriers. They are universally recognized by the commercial world and the courts as such, and stand exactly as railroad companies, steamboat companies and stage lines, as well as delivery companies in cities and towns; and any special exactions in the shape of taxes, licenses or tribute levied upon any one of such companies or carriers, and not upon all such similarly situated, is directly repugnant to the spirit of the above provisions of the constitution; and I cannot but believe that it is also in direct violation of the same.



There are classes of business, such as the vending of liquors, which owing to its recognized tendency for evil and injuries to morals and health, under the police powers of the State, which justifies the legislature in singling them out and legislating in a drastic manner to prevent these evils and demanding special tribute to compensate the public for the injuries and burdens brought upon the community by the conduct of such business. But, can any intelligent or fair minded man allege any like grounds connected with the express business to justify any such exactions or regulations; or can any fair minded legislator fail to distinguish between the two characters of business? To justify any such exactions on any such principles from express companies, or other common carriers, it seems to me, is a reflection upon the intelligence or sense of justice of our people.

The 5th Section of this Bill requires all express companies to pay into the State treasury two cents upon each package handled by it. The profits derived from the express business are dependent upon the amount of business conducted, and the managers of the business, like any other intelligent people, engaged in modern business, attempt to fix their rates to encourage the augmentation of business and to leave them a profit. If special exactions are imposed upon them, they are compelled to increase their rates of charges to save themselves from loss. The only result of this special exaction, it seems to me, will be to cause the companies to increase their charges, and instead of being an exaction from the companies, will be in the end a tribute exacted from the citizen, who makes a shipment, and would be the same as if the Legislature had singled out and required this tax to be paid in the first instance by the shipper, which action, every one will admit, would meet with universal condemnation.

It is questionable in my mind whether Section 6 of this Bill, does not prohibit the different municipalities from taxing the personal or tangible property of express companies, or in any wise deriving any revenue from the profits or business of such companies. This evidently was an oversight of the author of the Bill, or otherwise he would have been more explicit in the language used.

Section 8 provides that "any officer, manager or agent who shall make any false statement or oath respecting the matters and things therein required to be stated and sworn to, shall be

deemed guilty of a felony and punished by imprisonment in the penitentiary for not less than one year nor more than three years." This is a harsh and unjustifiable provision, and does not correspond with the penalties imposed upon others guilty of like offenses. In other cases, the offense is only a misdemeanor, while in this Bill the same offense is made a felony, punishable by confinement in the penitentiary. But its harshness does not stop with this. It makes the simple fact of making a false statement or oath a felony, regardless of the fact as to whether such statement or oath was made knowingly or willfully. If such untrue statement or oath is made merely by mistake or inadvertence, it makes it a crime and visits this severe penalty, which is contrary to a well settled principle of criminal law. Our statute, in order to make a false statement perjury, expressly requires that such statement shall be "willfully and knowingly." To provide that an untrue statement, not made willfully, but through mere inadvertence, error or mistake, should subject the party to imprisonment in the penitentiary, and the disgrace which follows, can hardly find tolerance among civilized people. Surely this requirement was not intended by the author of the Bill before me.

The license fees exacted by this Bill apply alone to the agents of foreign express companies, and the payment of the same is a condition precedent to the transaction of business by such companies within the State. This provision of the Bill is plainly unconstitutional, and has been so expressly decided by the Supreme Court of the United States in the case of *Crutcher vs. The Commonwealth of Kentucky*, in 141 U. S. Supreme Court Reports, page 47. The Court in that case holds that such exaction is an interference with inter-State commerce, and is accordingly unconstitutional and void.

Lile, in his notes on Corporations, page 152, says, "It should be carefully observed that while a State may tax or otherwise lay a burden upon a foreign corporation, yet if the latter be engaged in inter-state commerce, any interference with its operations will be unconstitutional and void. Hence, not only has the State no power in such case to prohibit a foreign corporation from doing business within its borders, but it can lay a tax upon its business, as a condition precedent to doing business there, since this would be, in effect, a regulation of inter-state commerce. Therefore, a state law requiring a license tax to be

paid by a telegraph, express, or railway company, or any other company or individual, engaged in inter-state commerce, as a condition precedent to the right to do business within its borders, is void."

This is a plain discussion of the bill before me. It covers, in unquestionable terms, the principle objection which I have to the Bill, viz: that it is clearly and positively unconstitutional, and is therefore void.

The decision of the Supreme Court of the United States, above cited, is on all fours with the Bill before me. A license was imposed upon all agents of express companies not only doing business wholly within the State, but upon those who passed across or through the State of Kentucky in going to and from other States for inter-state commerce purposes. Had the State of Kentucky and the State of West Virginia confined their license tax to express agents operating wholly within each State, no constitutional question could have been raised; but inasmuch as the Kentucky law, and the bill now before me, tax all express agents who traverse the State in the line of their duties, it is therefore a clear invasion of the inter-state commerce law, and is in conflict with the constitution of the United States. It has been repeatedly decided by the Supreme Court of the United States, that no State, under the guise of a license tax, can exclude from its jurisdiction a foreign corporation engaged in inter-state commerce, or impose any burdens upon such commerce within its limits. That court has often held that a State law is unconstitutional and void which requires a party to take out a license for carrying on inter-state commerce, no matter how specious the pretext may be for imposing it.

Again, the per centum exacted on packages and gross receipts are not by the Bill confined to the business in respect of packages received by such company and deliverable to points within the State, which is also a like violation of the Inter-State Commerce law. See the case of *The Pacific Express Company versus Siebert*, Auditor; United States Supreme Court Reports, 142, page 339. So also the case of *in re Bell*, 25 United States Appellate Court, page 379.

Moreover, it exacts license fees from foreign Express Companies and their agents as a condition precedent to their transaction of business in this State, as well as fees for filing statements, and requires no such license fees or other such fees and exactions



to be paid by domestic Express Corporations engaged in a similar business in the State, which is a discrimination not allowed by our Constitution.

I have examined this Bill with great carefulness, because I am fully convinced that express companies have not hitherto paid their reasonable share of taxation in the State of West Virginia. I have all along, and do now favor requiring them to bear a just proportion of the tax burdens of the State. I would have heartily approved a just and proper law taxing them. I would cheerfully have approved this Bill, but for its unconstitutional and discriminating character. All foreign corporations should be placed upon an equal footing by the law, and all of them should be fairly and justly taxed. While I cannot conscientiously approve this Bill, for the reasons abovegiven, I promise the people of West Virginia that during the remaining two years of my term as Governor, I will use every honest endeavor to require express companies and all other foreign corporations to pay legitimate and proper taxes to our State government. House Bill No. 217 is accordingly vetoed.

G. W. ATKINSON,  
Governor.

Charleston, W. Va., Feb. 25, 1899.

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## VETO

*By Governor G. W. Atkinson of House Bill No. 172—A Bill to Amend and Re-enact Sections 7 and 8 of Chapter 75, of the Code of West Virginia.*

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The intention and purpose of the author of this Bill are absolutely right. When one man works for another, he should be compensated for his toil, for two reasons specially: First, because he earns his wages; and, second, he is presumed, under the law of political economy, to have added to the wealth of his employer as much or more as the amount agreed to be paid to him for his toil. No man will employ another unless he expects to receive more in return than he contracts to pay to the one he employs for his labor. If I engage a man to work for me, and

agree to pay him \$50.00 per month, the presumption is, under the laws of political economy, that he adds to my accumulations, or wealth, as much or more than I agree to pay him; otherwise, my purpose in employing him is to defraud one or more of my fellow citizens. The laws of common sense and common reason, and, indeed, the law of God, declare that "the laborer is worthy of his hire." No man should give to another his time and his energies, without being properly compensated for the same. Evidently the intention of the author of this Bill is to require every employer of labor to pay the wages of the man or men he employs to aid him in carrying on his business. This is right—forever right. No honest, well-meaning man can question this proposition; and no honest citizen can, or will attempt to controvert the same. But this Bill, as I understand it, does not wholly rest upon this principle. If it stopped here, no one could induce me to not approve it heartily. I believe in the principle and the duty of protecting the rights and the interests of the working people. Labor produces wealth, and wealth can be produced in no other way. A ton of iron-ore in the mountain side is worth but little, perhaps not over ten cents in real value; but when labor takes hold of it, digs it and smelts it, value is thereby added to it. The ore is worth ten cents per ton as it lies in its original state. A ton of this ore is dug and smelted, and a bar of iron is produced, worth say \$5.00, which when worked into horse-shoes, will sell for \$20.00. The hand of the skilled laborer is again applied to this same bar of iron, and it is made into knife-blades, and the product is found to be worth \$1,000.00. Other skilled laborers take hold of this same bar of iron, and they work it into cambric needles, and it is worth \$10,000.00. Still others apply their skill and toil, and they transform it into hair-springs for watches and it is worth \$20,000.00. All this increase of value is the result of labor. So, no one will presume to say that labor, and labor only, does not produce wealth. Who, then, will undertake to assume that labor shall not be properly paid?

There are two kinds of employers of labor in the world: One is honest—the other is dishonest. This bill is an effort to make all men honest. That is to say, the purpose of the bill is to require every employer of labor, by a State law, to pay the salaries of the men he employs. This, in principle, is right; and all honest, well-meaning people will not attempt to controvert it.

But another principle is involved, which evidently was not foreseen by the author of the bill before me, viz: the rights of innocent purchasers of the products of the laborers, who, under this bill, are given a prior lien upon the real and personal property of their employers for the articles they produce. Proposition the first: No man should work for another without being paid for his labor. Proposition the second: The man who does the work for his employer, should have a first lien upon the real and personal property of his employer. These propositions are absolutely just. But what about the interests of innocent third parties, who may become involved? I can readily see how this bill will require all employers to pay their laborers every dollar that they owe them, (and this is right), but there is another paramount question upon which I am compelled to pass, viz: innocent purchasers of the products of labor.

To illustrate: I am a coal merchant in Cincinnati. I order ten barges of coal from a coal operator in Kanawha Valley. I am asked to advance \$1,000.00 on said purchase, or, indeed, I may have paid for the entire cargo of coal. I make the advance or advances. The coal is mine by purchase. Under this bill, it turns out that the men who dug the coal, which I purchased in part or entirely, have not been paid for digging or mining it. When I attempt to ship my coal, the miners who dug the coal, having filed their "mechanics lien" under this law, attach the ten barges of coal, and I am prevented from shipping it to my place of business. I am an innocent party, and necessarily a sufferer and a loser thereby. This is contrary to a general principle of law, which is as old as the law itself, that innocent purchasers must always be protected.

To illustrate further: I am a lumber dealer. A man comes to me with a raft of lumber. It suits me. I purchase it, and pay for it. It turns out that the men who cut and rafted the lumber were not paid by their employers. Under this bill, they can file their mechanics liens in the county or counties where the work was done, and if the timber has been transported into another county, they can follow the timber; and although I am an innocent purchaser of the lumber, and have fully paid for the same, my lumber is made subject to the mechanics lien, and can be taken from me *nolens volens*.

But it may be claimed by the friends of this bill, that purchasers of personal property should ascertain whether there is a



mechanics lien upon the same before they pay for it. This is reasonable upon its face, and yet it is a difficult matter to determine. Take this illustration: Scores of men deal in lumber. They employ labor, and they are benefitted by the products of such labor. They, however, fail or refuse to pay their laborers. They ship lumber or some other article, which is the product of the toil of the men they employ. They sell it and pocket the money, and refuse to pay the men who produced it. What is the result? The men who did the work—who cut the timber, &c.—find that their employer is attempting to defraud them; they enter their mechanics liens, and follow the property, and necessarily require the innocent purchaser of the lumber or other articles to pay their bills, notwithstanding the fact that said innocent purchaser of the lumber or other article, has paid full value for the same.

It seems to me that every honest citizen will agree that a law so unlimited in its character is manifestly wrong and unjust. It will not only, in many instances, require an upright business man, entirely without any intent to defraud any one, to pay twice for what he has honestly purchased in the conduct of his legitimate business; and it will necessarily hamper trade and disrupt business generally.

I am a lumber dealer, we will say. John Smith comes to me with a raft of one thousand saw-logs. The lumber is exactly such as I need. I pay Mr. Smith his full price for the logs. He receives his money, and returns to his home. He has been fully paid, and is satisfied. A week, or a month later, the men who cut these saw-logs, come to me and inform me that they have an unpaid claim against this raft of logs. They have filed their mechanics lien for cutting them, in accordance with the requirements of this bill. They have not been paid for their honest work. Under this law, they can take possession of this raft of saw-logs, notwithstanding the fact that I have fully paid Mr. Smith for them. This is not right, and no one will say that it will not seriously interfere with the lumber business of the State. No honest man will, or can say, that this will not prove a serious menace to business in general.

But the friends of the Bill may claim (1) that labor is worthy of its hire—which is unquestionably right—and (2) that every one engaged in purchasing any commodity should first find out, before he makes a purchase, whether the article he buys is free

of the incumbrance fixed by this Bill. Can this, in all cases, or in a majority of cases, be done? Is it possible to do so? Under our general statute, relating to mechanics liens, one has sixty days to file his lien, from the time he completes his labor on the property upon which he may file a lien. A purchaser—entirely innocent of any intentional wrong-doing—may inspect the record in the county in which the work was done, with a view of ascertaining whether a mechanics lien had been filed against the property, which he desires to purchase. None appears. The sixty days, however, in which a lien may be filed have not yet fully expired. He makes the purchase. A few days later, a lien is entered of record. He knows nothing about it. He believes the property is clear of all incumbrances. He purchases it and pays full value for the same; and yet, under this bill, a mechanics lien may be subsequently filed, and the innocent purchaser can be held liable for the amount that has not been paid to the man or men who has or have not been paid for the labor upon the property involved in the transaction.

It is the settled policy of the commercial world that personal property shall pass, in the business transactions of mankind, unhampered by concealed liens; and this is and has been the declared policy of our State, as shown by our legislation in its requirements as to recordation of liens and stipulations relative to the passing of the titles of personal property. Had this bill provided that the article or articles produced by labor, been subject only to the liens of mechanics, so long as it or they remain in the possession of the party or parties who employed the labor, it would, in my judgment, have been a proper law, and therefore could not seriously restrict trade among business people.

In view of all the facts, notwithstanding my belief that the intention of the author of the bill is a just and proper one, yet I cannot consent to its becoming a law, because it will necessarily involve innocent, well-meaning business people, and will, as a result, necessarily hamper legitimate business in the State, and I accordingly veto it, because it contains no provision for the protection of innocent purchasers.

G. W. ATKINSON,  
Governor.

CHARLESTON, W. VA.,  
February 25th, 1899.

## NATIONAL GUARD.

*Status of Members of National Guard, Who were Volunteers In the Spanish War.—Correspondence Between Governor Atkinson and General Spilman.*

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Parkersburg, West Virginia,  
March 27, 1899.

TO HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR,  
Charleston, W. Va.

SIR:—

Having performed the duties to the United States as requested by your Excellency in April of last year, I have the honor to inform you of my return to the State and my readiness to assume the duties required of me by law. Col. C. L. Smith, Commanding First Infantry National Guards, and Col. W. H. Banks, Commanding Second Infantry National Guards, who have been absent on the same mission and by the same request, have reported to me for duty.

In addition to the compliments you have kindly paid to the First West Virginia Volunteers, I may I think with legitimate pride, announce to you that we not only marked and commended by all commanding officers under whom we served, but in addition were selected by military commanders after competitive inspections, for important duties; but unfortunately we were set aside for those having a stronger political influence, which no doubt, you in common with the whole country recognize as a pernicious and baneful principle on which to regulate military affairs.

Very respectfully,

B. D. SPILMAN,  
Brigadier-General,  
Commanding West Virginia,  
National Guards.



March 31, 1899.

GENERAL B. D. SPILMAN,  
Parkersburg, W. Va.

SIR:—

I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of a communication dated at Parkersburg, March 27th, 1899, bearing your signature with title "Brigadier General Commanding West Virginia National Guard," in which you report that you have performed the duties to the United States requested by me, have returned to the State, and are prepared to assume the duties required of you by law; and, also, "Col. C. L. Smith, Commanding 1st Infantry National Guard," and "Col. W. H. Banks Commanding 2nd Infantry National Guard," with service to the United States and State coincident with your own, "have reported to you for duty."

In reply I have to inform you that the right to exercise command in the West Virginia National Guard, conferred by virtue of your commission in the State Guard, was terminated upon your acceptance of a commission in the United States Volunteer service; and the same applies likewise to Colonels Smith and Banks. The acceptance of these commissions in the United States service necessitating a protracted and indefinite absence from the State, and a complete removal from its service and authority, was wholly incompatible with any service to the State that might have been required of you at any definite period of time, either near or remote, and was therefore tantamount to an entire severance of your official relations with the State Service. But, in as much as you did not formally resign your commission, and as I desired to preserve, so far as practicable, your former identity with the State Guard, the officers of the National Guard who volunteered in the United States Service were transferred from the active to the supernumerary list of West Virginia National Guard, are thereby subject to duty only upon the order of the Commander-in-Chief.

It was evidently the manifest intention of the Legislature of West Virginia in enacting the present Military Code, that the Governor should, at all times, keep and maintain, within the limits of the State, not fewer than two regiments of a National Guard. This law, according to my construction of it—and in this opinion I am corroborated by the Law Officer of the Guard and the Attorney General of the State—is mandatory and not

merely directory, and it was my sworn duty to obey it. Consequently the necessity for the reorganization of the Guard, during the ten months' absence of yourself and Colonels Smith and Banks, could not have been averted under our present Military Code. It is true that section 6 of our present law allows the Commander-in-Chief, at his discretion, to grant six months leave of absence to the Guard upon a requisition of the President of the United States. This limitation is inoperative to abridge the power of Congress, under the National Constitution, to call out the militia of the several States; but in the present instance, as Congress has not exercised that power, and only called for a volunteer service, the question upon which I was called to act was to what extent the National Guard, under such condition, was available. It is therefore evident that the foregoing limitation becomes important as indicating the Legislative intent in the law, which I am bound to observe in the absence of paramount authority from the Congress of the United States.

The action of the Commander-in-chief by which yourself and Colonels Smith and Banks were rendered supernumerary was given due publication from the Adjutant General's Office by General Order No. 5 dated May 24th, 1898, copy enclosed.

You are respectfully informed further that the office of Brigade Commander, after you vacated it, was filled by the detail of an officer from the General Staff, and due publication thereof made as per said General Order No. 5, 1898. Under date of June 18th, 1898, the officer detailed was commissioned Brigade Commander in accordance with section 20, Military Code, and the said appointment was duly confirmed by the State Senate at the recent session of the Legislature.

The offices vacated by Colonels Smith and Banks were also filled by the promotion of officers of the Guard remaining in the service of the State, after examinations, held and conducted according to law, and due publication thereof was made from Brigade Headquarters by General Order No. 30 dated at Charleston, September 15th, 1898.

The foregoing is respectfully presented that you may be corrected in your misapprehension of the facts that have obtained and do now obtain in the personnel of the Guard, from which erroneous ground you assume for yourself and for Colonels Smith and Banks title and rank to active command which were

voluntarily relinquished by yourselves; and the further fact that there are no present "duties required of you by law", and you are only subject to such duty as the Commander-in-Chief may in the future assign to you from your present status as supernumerary officers of the Guard.

I am constrained to direct attention, also, to your error that the duties performed by you and Colonels Smith and Banks in the service of the United States were at my request. To do this I am confident I need scarcely more than remind you of your own commendable zeal to obtain command of the First West Virginia Volunteer Infantry in the war against Spain, and, likewise, the laudable desire of Colonels Smith and Banks to have commissions in said regiment. You are as thoroughly conversant with all the facts in this respect as I am, and I need not elaborate the point beyond recalling to your recollection the main and general ground upon which the selection of officers was based, viz: the President's call for troops having provided for a Volunteer army, formal requisition upon the organized military forces of the country not having been made, (though the President indicated his wish that members and organizations of the State Guard be given preference over other volunteers), it was optional with me as the appointing power in West Virginia, to commission officers of my own selection; but, notwithstanding the most earnest application for service in the volunteer army from a multitude of citizens, supported by strong and varied influences, I confined the organization of the First West Virginia Volunteer Infantry to the members of the State Guard. Then, in accordance with the understanding entered into with yourself and associates, as the best and fairest solution of the animated contest that grew up between the officers of the Guard for commissions, the number of applications having been considerable in excess of the places to be filled, I permitted you and your fellow-officers to effect an agreement among yourselves, and, without restraint or direction on my part, to select the particular officers to be commissioned. This you did, and in pursuance therewith, commissions were issued accordingly.

In replying as above to your letter, I have reviewed for your information and direction my official acts, and interpretation of the law, in conjunction with the facts of the situation, which are involved by the position taken in your letter, although you



were doubtless aware in advance, of the main facts upon which the foregoing is predicated, the same having been of general public information, the attitude of your letter imposing upon me the necessity of a categorical and official pronouncement of the points raised determining and fixing the status of yourself and Colonels Smith and Banks in the West Virginia National Guard.

I have the honor to remain,

Your most obedient servant,

G. W. ATKINSON,  
Commander-in-Chief.

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## · PARDON GRANTED.

*The Pardon of Challon Pahl by Governor Atkinson, and the  
Reasons Assigned Therefor.*

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In the case of Challon Pahl, convicted by the Criminal Court, of Wood Co., January term, 1899, for unlawful shooting, and sentenced to three months in the county jail, and fined \$100.00 and costs.

The petition in this case, which is signed by a large number of the citizens of Wood County, states that July 4th last, a dance was held at Mineral Wells in said Wood county; that one Albert Wilson appeared on the scene loaded with a lot of beer and whisky—inside and out. Whereupon he—being loaded—struck John Schultz and the prisoner Pahl each a belt across the head with an empty beer bottle. Doubtless if he had struck each of them on the inside with a full bottle of hop essence, there would have been no serious trouble. But the lick was inflicted with an empty bottle, and necessarily trouble followed. Had Wilson checked up after hitting Challon Pahl and John Schultz with the empty beer bottle, as aforesaid, this trouble perhaps never would have been heard of outside of Mineral Wells; but as all of the parties to the scrimmage were “dry”, except Wilson, he (Wilson) proceeded to baste Edgar Pahl (Challon’s brother) a swipe across the forehead with another empty beer bottle. Edgar, like the other two, did not fancy having empty beer bottles sailing around his unprotected cranium, and in order to protect himself from the empty and the dry attack,

wholly on the outside, he, too, felt it to be his duty to take a hand in the Fourth of July double handed celebration. The affair, at this juncture, must have been interesting, as it is more than apparent that the Celebration of the Nation's Natal Day had reached its ebb at Mineral Wells, aforesaid. No police officers were present. They rarely are when most needed. The dance, however went on.

The petition goes on to state that Challon Pahl, and one Albert Cooper proceeded to follow Wilson (the beer-bottle hitter) down the hill-side, and while trying to find out from him why he slashed around so promiscuously with his "empty" beer bottles, another "scrap" naturally ensued, resulting in a stab in Pahl's back by a sharp knife in the hands of the aforesaid Wilson, whose former weapon was a beer bottle entirely empty. Whereupon, the petition distinctly states, that Pahl, in order to save his own life, whipped a pistol out of his hip pocket, and proceeded to fire upon Wilson, *a la* Mexico Bill, or cow-boy style generally. One of the shots took effect in the off side of Wilson's corpus, South by South-east, and he was laid up about a week from the necessary soreness created thereby. What became of Wilson's whisky and beer that he took to the "frolic" is not set out in the petition. The natural presumption is that it had been entirely consumed or had been otherwise disposed of, before the boys went down the hill-side to square up the general deal, where Wilson got the shot in the back, instead of in the neck. On the whole, it may be that the stab in the back was more fortunate than another shot in the neck, by the whisky and beer. At all events, none of the boys were much hurt. This is gratifying to all law abiding people. A big, red cowhide, in the hands of a policeman, at the critical juncture on the hill-side, administered to the crowd of belligerent Fourth of July combatants, would have been a blessing to the boys, as well as to the participants in the "frolic" generally at aforesaid Mineral Wells on the 4th of July, aforesaid. But the policeman was not there!

The petition further states that Challon Pahl is a "youngster" only 19 years of age, and has, prior to this fool escapade, been an upright, law-abiding young man, and that he is of a good family, all of whom are greatly humiliated over his mis-conduct; and that the signers thereof think the "young blood" has been punished enough for his waywardness in this particular case.

I beg to differ from the opinion of the signers of the petition: 1st, Pahl had no sort of business to carry a pistol in his hip-pocket; 2nd, He is wholly inexcusable for drinking whisky and beer to excess on the 4th of July, or any other day; and, 3rd, I cannot excuse him entirely for using his pistol, even though Wilson pulled a knife on him—notwithstanding the fact that most men would do most anything rather than be carved up with a jack-knife.

However, after carefully weighing all the facts set out in the petition, my judgment is that “a splitting of the difference” in the case will be reasonably fair, and, in my opinion, will meet the ends of public justice; and without intending in the least to reflect upon the Court who tried the case, I direct that Pahl shall be required to serve out his ninety days sentence in the county jail, and that the fine of \$100.00 shall be fully remitted.

I hope that the lesson learned by all the young squirts who participated in this 4th of July melee, may last them all the remainder of their lives. Young men, it don't pay to carry pistols, nor does it pay to get drunk or act the fool at any time. Better at all times, be sober and decent and gentlemanly. It will more than pay you in the end. Try it!

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## INSURANCE.

*Governor Atkinson's Views on Valued Policy Insurance.*

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April 10, 1899.

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STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA,  
EXECUTIVE CHAMBER,  
CHARLESTON, April 10, 1899.

MY DEAR MR. PALMER:—

I am under obligations to you for publishing, in extenso, my semi-veto of the “Valued Policy” insurance law recently enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia; and I am also obliged for your courteous invitation to present through “The Forum” any additional objections I may have to such a law, and to



offer some remedy to existing objections to present plans of fire insurance.

I confess that there are some grounds for objections, on the part of those who carry insurance, to the methods adopted by many fire insurance companies in adjusting losses. A fire occurs; the company or companies interested send one or more experienced adjusters to determine the loss; they understand their business thoroughly; they usually set about to secure all the salvage possible for their companies; some of them frequently resort to improper methods to accomplish their purpose, such as threats that no payments will be made by the companies, unless their figures are accepted by the assured, &c, &c. All these sort of methods are wrong, and they naturally create hostility to the companies.

When an honest man insures his property at an honest value, he is entitled to an honest adjustment of the loss he has sustained when his property is burned; and, yet, many times he is "bamboozled" by "smart" adjusters, and necessarily he is dissatisfied, and puts in the remainder of his life abusing fire insurance companies. An honest man detests a law suit. He will, as a rule, suffer wrongs to be heaped upon him before he will "go to Court" with a case. As a result, many good, reliable men are badly treated by adjusters in arriving at the true extent of a loss.

This is wrong, and in this way the "Valued Policy" nuisance has gained great headway in all parts of the country. What is the remedy? First, all fire insurance companies should be more liberal and reasonable in adjusting losses. All "bull-dozer" adjusters should be relegated to the rear, and only just, fair-minded men should be selected to settle losses. Second, the different States should enact laws regulating methods of adjusting losses, and nothing more. If these things were faithfully carried out, we would hear no more of "Valued Policy" laws, which not only operate against the insurance companies, but against the people as well.

Most truly yours,

G. W. ATKINSON,  
Governor of West Virginia.

WILLIS PALMER, ESQ.,  
Editor "Forum,"  
Indianapolis, Indiana.

## OPINION OF RELIGION.

*Governor Atkinson's Religious Creed, Briefly Expressed.*

April 10, 1899.

STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA,  
EXECUTIVE CHAMBER,  
CHARLESTON, April 10, 1899.

Gilson Willetts, Esq.,  
No. 603 West End Avenue,  
New York.

MY DEAR SIR:—

In reply to your three questions, propounded to me, I beg to say,

First. I most certainly believe that Christianity is the unquestionable friend of mankind. It has given humanity all over the world where it has been introduced, an uplift which is not comparable, in any sense, with any other systems of religion that have been tried in the past. It gives to mankind generally higher conceptions of life and duty, relative not only to this world, but for the world to come. It erects school houses, colleges, churches, and eleemosynary institutions for the betterment of the human race. No other system of religion can be compared with it in these respects.

Second. I believe unqualifiedly in the Divinity of the Christ. I never had any doubt arising in my mind upon this question, and I have given to the subject careful thought and study.

Third. I believe in the surpassing potency of the civilizing influences which grow out of the teachings and principles of the Gospel of the Christ. To blot out Christianity would be to throw a veil of darkness over the world, and render mankind desolate and miserable.

Very respectfully yours,

G. W. ATKINSON,  
Governor of West Virginia.

## REMARKS

*of Governor G. W. Atkinson, LL. D., at State Street M. E.  
Church, Charleston, W. Va., at the Installation of the  
Officers of the Epworth League.*

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*May 14, 1899,*

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### MY FRIENDS AND FELLOW-CITIZENS:

The subject assigned to me for a ten minutes' talk on this occasion is, "The Worth of the Church to a Young Man." This theme is so broad that it will be difficult for me to mention even some of the leading thoughts which I have in my mind relative thereto, in the limited space of ten or fifteen minutes assigned to me.

First of all, I remark, that the Church is worth *everything* to the young man. If you will believe me, my young friends, you simply will, nine cases out of ten, make shipwrecks of life if you attempt to get on without the helpful influence of the Church of the Christ. My own observation and my reading as well, confirm the statement that the Christian Church is the line that securely fastens all young men to the shore, and without this mooring they are liable to veer off into improper methods of living, and, sooner or later, drift upon the rocks. I knew two young men who graduated from college the same day; both of them were good students; both of them were moral young men, and both of them had great promise of future success. Neither of them, at the time of graduation, was a member of the Church. They discussed the question carefully as to whether they should become religious or take the other side. One of them decided that he would become a member of the Church; the other decided that he would see more of the world, and thus secure a higher grade of enjoyment. Both of them studied law, and started in the line of their professional work with rich prospects ahead. The one who became a Christian, eschewed society, stuck to his office, attended to his duties, and steadily grew in



his profession. The other entered society, adopted fast methods of living, paid but little attention to his business, and inside of ten years became absolutely worthless—a total mental and moral wreck. The other pressed steadily forward, attending Church worship regularly, was an active worker in the Sunday School, and is to-day one of the very best lawyers in the State of Ohio. You may think that the Church had nothing to do in this matter. I differ from you. Had the other young man allied himself with Church people and employed his leisure from his profession in moral and religious work, he doubtless would have been equally successful with the other.

This illustrates satisfactorily, to my mind, that every young man needs the Church to keep him at all times in the line of right living. A man makes a mistake if he depends upon himself to get on in the world and ignores the Church and its influences. In almost every instance, he will fail. Of course, every one must have self-reliance, because no one can succeed who does not depend upon himself, upon his own energies and his own efforts. He must, however, have a stronger arm upon which to lean than that of his father, and a kindlier bosom than that of his mother on which to rest his weary head. There is nothing enduring in this world except God and His laws. There is nothing so helpful as the promises and privileges of the Church. Everything else is evanescent—passing away. Darkness is closing over the land of Solon and Lycurgus. The hills that echoed the eloquence of Pericles are almost unknown to men. The groves in which Plato and Socrates prepared their philosophy have all been practically razed to the earth. The grand cities, temples and obelisks, which were intended to perpetuate the memories of their builders, have largely crumbled into dust. But the works of men like Abraham, and Moses, and Paul, and John, and the fathers of the Church, will live on forever. This latter class of men sought mainly to do good, and to elevate their fellow-men, and their deeds lived after they were gone.

I remark again, my friends, that the Church needs the young men in its work and service. There is a work in the Church for every one to do, that no one else can do as well as he. I care not how humble he may be; I care not how uneducated he may be, he can render a service that others more accomplished cannot perform so well as he. The life of Stephen Paxson is an il-

lustration of the truthfulness of this statement. He was lame, was afflicted with an impediment in his voice, was a country violinist, and a noted jig-dancer and wit, notwithstanding his lameness and his stuttering. He was a hatter by trade. His little girl, about seven or eight years of age, promised her Sunday School Superintendent that, along with the other scholars, she would bring a student to the Sunday School the next Sabbath. Naturally, she went after her father. He tried to beg off, but she persisted. He went with her. From the first he was interested. He became an earnest student. He could neither read nor write. He adopted systematic methods of study; very soon learned to read and write; studied the Bible carefully; was a good singer, and within a year, became a very useful member of the Sunday School. He felt it to be his duty to engage in the work of organizing Sunday Schools under the Sunday School Union of the Methodist Episcopal Church. He went West, and inside of twenty years he had organized over two thousand Sunday Schools, and received into membership in these schools in the neighborhood of one hundred thousand children. He was the most noted Sunday School man of his day. He became one of the most magnetic, powerful platform speakers that the world has ever known. He left a name behind him that will live forever. As much as I love and revere the memory of General U. S. Grant, I declare to-night that I would rather be Stephen Paxson than General Grant.

I wish to add also, my friends, that the Church helps you not only mentally and morally and religiously, but it helps you physically as well. The Church member looks after his health. He does not waste his strength and muscles by keeping late hours and breaking down his energies. He feels it to be his religious duty to look after his body as well as his mind and his soul. He recognizes the life of Christ as a globe of precepts; that all true work is embodied in religion; and that religion is two-sided, embracing good works as well as worship and devotion. The big human end of religion, after all, is to do unto others as you would have them do unto you.

Again I remark that the Church gives one standing among his fellows. Business men, when they desire a clerk, will not advertise for a young man who is a drinker, or a society man or a card player, but, on the contrary, they want sober, decent, reliable, religious men to intrust with their business affairs.

The Church going man does not waste his time or his energies. I read a placard once on the walls of a law office in Columbus, Ohio, "Lost, somewhere between nine A. M. and 6 P. M., to-day, one golden hour. No reward is offered, because it is lost forever." Every day is a little life, and a life within itself. Abraham and Jacob and Moses counted their lives by days and not by years. Therefore, he who loses a day is dangerously prodigal.

The Church teaches young men to think good thoughts, to read good books, to study the Bible, to help their fellow men. It teaches them also that good society is the society of the good, and that any other society called good is an absolute misnomer. It teaches men to be charitable, to be useful, to be kind, to be helpful, and to make the world broader and brighter and nobler and grander because of their having lived in it.

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## TRUSTS.

*Governor Atkinson and the Trust Problem.*

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*May 15, 1899.*

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STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA,  
EXECUTIVE CHAMBER,  
CHARLESTON, May 15, 1899.

EDITOR "FARM MACHINERY,"  
St. Louis, Mo.

DEAR SIR:—

My whole life has been an opposition to "Trusts". Being one of the "common people", I have stood out against the growing *encroachments* of wealth. I have invariably stood with "the masses" against "the classes". The times in which we live seem to inspire the rich to combine for the purpose of enabling them to dictate terms to the poor and the powerless. The rich man commands and the poor man obeys, or "steps down and out".



If the employee presumes to assert himself, as he believes in his own interests, another forthwith takes his place, and he is forced to look out for another job, or starve or steal or beg. To my mind, this has always seemed radically wrong. And yet, there is another side to this subject. Wealth has always ruled, and I suppose always will. It is often unjust, overbearing, exacting, unfair; but not always so. Capital is many times unduly censured. Corporations are almost always unjustly proscribed. I never could understand why the common people should persist in denouncing ordinary corporations. No country can prosper without them. They are absolutely essential for the public good. I have invariably stood by them, and always shall. A corporation is entitled to the same consideration as an individual, and yet they are usually denounced by the masses, and in most cases unjustly. No country can be developed, nor can it prosper without corporations. But *Trusts* are another thing. They are a union of corporations which are engaged in the same line of business. I have hitherto conscientiously opposed them, and yet the times seemingly demand their existence. Why this is so, I cannot understand. They claim that they invariably do three things: 1st. Pay the highest possible wages. 2nd. Furnish the best quality of stock. 3rd. Charge the lowest rate to consumers. If we are honest, we must admit that there is some truth in all of these claims. But, somehow, I cannot get it out of my mind that they are *dangerous* in the end to the public weal, and therefore ought not to be encouraged. I may be prejudiced in this conclusion; but I do not feel that I am.

I have written hastily in reply to your request, and will have more to say later on.

Very truly yours,

G. W. ATKINSON,  
Governor of West Virginia.

## DECORATION DAY:

*Governor Atkinson on "Decoration Day."*

May 15, 1899.

STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA,  
EXECUTIVE CHAMBER,  
CHARLESTON, May 15, 1899.

E. E. Meredith, Esq.,  
Editor "Advocate",  
Mannington, W. Va.

MY DEAR SIR:—

Replying to your courteous favor of the 13th inst., I wish to give my unqualified endorsement to the custom of continuing Decoration Day exercises over the graves of our deceased soldiers of the War for the Union. It has been my pleasure and my profit to scarcely miss a year in the last twenty-five years, of being present, at some point in or outside of our State, when fresh flowers were strewn upon the graves of the heroes who saved the flag and Constitution for the generations that are to come after them.

It seems to me that this year's exercises are going to be more profitable, more attractive, and more largely attended than any of the years of the past. The war with Spain has united our countrymen in the North and in the South. Somehow, there existed a very distant and cold fraternal spirit. I suppose it could not be otherwise, as it necessarily grew out of the war. But, this year I observe that in a great many places, joint services are to be held—both the Blue and the Grey participating. This I heartily approve. When the Spaniards attacked our flag, the men who wore the Grey responded to the call of the President as quickly as the men who wore the Blue, and, being the same kind of people, they have proved themselves to be equally as true soldiers. Hereafter I trust that our people, North and South, will never consider again where the North ends and the South begins.

I clipped out of a newspaper the other day, the following five stanzas which I desire you to print:

“Upon my bosom softly lies  
A knot of blue and gray,  
You ask me why?—Tears fill my eyes  
As low to you I say.

I had two brothers once,  
Warm hearted, bold and gay;  
They left my side—one wore the blue  
The other wore the grey.

One rode with Stonewall and his men,  
And joined his fate with Lee;  
The other followed Sherman's march  
Triumphant to the sea.

Both fought for what they deemed the right,  
And died with sword in hand;  
One sleeps beneath Virginia's hills  
And one in Georgia's sand.

The same sun shines upon their graves  
My love for both must stay;  
And so upon my bosom lies  
This knot of blue and grey,”

Trusting that all over West Virginia, Decoration Day this year will be observed to a greater extent than at any time in the past, I am, with great respect,

Very truly yours,

G. W. ATKINSON.

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## REMARKS.

*of Governor G. W. Atkinson, on Receiving a Portion of a Shell  
Fired From the Armed Cruiser “New York” in  
the Battle at San Juan, Puerto Rico.*

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*May 19, 1899.*

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MR. GAINES AND FRIENDS:—

I take great pleasure, as the representative of the people of West Virginia, in accepting this part of a missile fired by our



sailors from one of the guns of the Battle-ship New York, at San Juan, Puerto Rico, into the ranks of the Spanish forces there entrenched, in our recent war with that one-horse Nation. The Spaniards in this conflict represented one of the oldest and meanest Nations the world has yet known. Age alone entitled it to respectful consideration. Nothing else did. These Spaniards thought that they could bully the United States. They tried upon us their game of bluff. They set themselves up against us, and were wiped out almost totally. They made a mistake. They soon found it out. The biggest fool job of the century, in international affairs, was the blowing up of our battle ship "Maine." While the world stands, the people of the United States will remember "the Maine;" and I think the Spaniards will remember it also. They will have all the balance of their lives to get onto the fact that there is a God in Israel, and that no Government can father a plot to deliberately blow up a ship of a God-fearing nation, without provocation, killing two hundred and sixty-six innocent, unsuspecting seamen, without sometime being called for such act before the bar of civilization and a just God as well. They blew up our ship "Maine," and we blew them up. They have answered to us, and they lost. They will have to answer to God for that crime, and I will not undertake to foretell the result. I leave that to God and them, and may our just God have mercy upon them!

I accept this fragment of a shell that did much to settle the result of our war with Spain. I will deposit it in Mrs. Mary Eagan's collections of our State Historical Society, if it be so directed by the Father and Maker of the Society—Dr. John P. Hale—who is here present and is still its President. I turn the same over to him, to be disposed of as he may direct. The people of West Virginia, I am sure, will appreciate this valuable relic, and in their name I thank you, and through you, Mr. W. D. Catlett, the generous donor, for the same.

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NOTE.—The shell was sent by W. D. Catlett, of West Virginia, now in Puerto Rico, and was formally presented to the Governor, by Hon. J. H. Gaines, in an elaborate address. Dr. Hale, the President of the State Historical Society, received the same from the Governor, and placed it in the Museum of the Society for the use of the people.

## OUR NEW OPPORTUNITIES IN AGRICULTURE.

*By Governor G. W. Atkinson, D. C. L.*

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EDITOR FARM MACHINERY,  
St. Louis, Mo.

DEAR SIR:

It gives me great pleasure to comply with your recent request for a short article on the above subject, but I must confess that my time has been so fully occupied with my official duties that I have been unable to give this complex question the careful study and thought which its importance deserves. Agriculture now admittedly the foundation upon which we must build our National prosperity, and to which we must look for our National greatness and wealth for all coming time, is, I am satisfied, on the eve of a great forward movement.

The general awakening among those engaged in this God-given profession—for it is a profession—the development of the great scientific facts underlie and constitute the basic principles of successful agriculture everywhere, have slowly but surely found their way into the minds of many husbandmen in every part of our great country; and this, with the earnest, constant demand for more general and higher education on all agricultural and kindred subjects, is sure to bear much fruit. The agencies which are at work to preserve intact this great industry of our country, and to fit and prepare our people for the new opportunities and possibilities which are ever opening to them, have duties to perform, the importance of which cannot well be overestimated. These agencies must continue to resist in the future, as they have resisted in the past, the strong and seemingly natural tendency to ignore agriculture, and to dispute the claim that it is the rock upon which all other industries must stand, if we would reach our highest and best development as a great Nation.

We cannot afford, as a Government, to ignore agriculture or to give to it its rightful place to commerce, to manufacturing,

to mining, or to any other of the great industries of our land; but must in a sense make them all subordinate to it, and for all to work in harmony for the common good, and each contribute to the success and fuller development of the other.

Every attempt which is made to rob agriculture of its rightful, first place among all our leading industries, is in direct opposition to the common good, and can only serve to hinder our progress and development as a Nation. That our National and State Governments are conceding more and more to the just demands of our agricultural people, is a source of gratification to every one who is familiar with the history of the past and arouse the people generally to the importance of the conditions with which we are surrounded to-day. If our Nation is to go forward to still greater and nobler achievements—and it certainly is—and at the same time encourage and protect those engaged in the husbandry of our country, and see to it that no other business or interest is allowed to usurp, ignore or infringe upon their rights by the enactment of unjust and discriminating laws, the conditions I have mentioned must be taken into consideration. The farmers of this country are its bone and sinew, and as a class, they desire nothing but an even chance in the race of life; and with this, they will ever be able to hold their rightful place, and fulfill their mission in life, and prove, beyond all cavil, that theirs is an honest and honorable profession, and that they are able and willing to contribute their full share towards making this a still greater, grander and nobler Nation than it at present is.

The question as to the effect upon our agriculture of the extension of our territory, is one with which we should deal with great care, and only after well-matured deliberation. That new opportunities will thus be opened to us is certain, but that the effect upon our agriculture will be beneficial is fraught with much doubt. Upon this point many of our great minds differ widely. That it will benefit on the one hand and injure on the other is doubtless true. That it will make any great difference either way, except in special cases, is an open question. Whether we are in sympathy with the policy which brings these new opportunities, or whether we are not, it is our plain duty and our privilege as free American citizens, to grasp the opportunities thus opened to us and make the best use of them that we possibly can.



We are willing to trust to the proper authorities a wise adjustment of these very important questions; but, at the same time, we must admonish them to give heed and careful consideration to the opinions on this subject, as expressed by the Agricultural authorities, which make a very careful study of all problems and their probable effect upon the agriculture of our common country.

As I said in the beginning, much is being done in acknowledgment of the claims and importance of agriculture, both by the Nation and by the different States of the Republic.

Among the different departments and organizations involved in the issues before us, I desire to name a few of those whose opinions and counsels should be sought in the settlement of these and all other matters of interest and importance to the great and growing interests of our growing country, to-wit: The Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C., and the State Departments of Agriculture in all of our States; and the National Grange of the Patrons of Husbandry, with the State Granges in all of the States maintaining them. These, and many other such organizations, can and will render very valuable service in the adjustment and settlement of all of these important questions, if called upon so to do. They, of necessity, must study carefully and intelligently all of these intricate and perplexing national and international questions, and all economic questions which are constantly coming up before the masses of our people for solution, and I am persuaded that they are doing this very thing, which will make their support all the more formidable.

Let the tillers of the soil resolve to meet these new opportunities, and at the same time faithfully perform all of the old, as well as the new obligations of citizenship which are, or may come upon them, sought or unsought, and thus contribute their part to the grand and glorious achievements of the greatest and best Government beneath the stars.

Your most obedient servant,

G. W. ATKINSON,  
Governor of West Virginia.

## WILLIAM LAWRENCE, LL. D.

*Remarks of Governor G. W. Atkinson, LL. D., of West Virginia, at a Public Meeting, held in the Chapel of the Ohio Wesleyan University, Delaware, Ohio, in Memory of the Late Judge William Lawrence, LL. D., a Trustee of the University.*

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*June 18, 1899.*

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MR. PRESIDENT, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN:—

There is but little left for me to say relative to the life and career of our distinguished friend and brother, the late Judge William Lawrence, of Bellfontaine.

He lived a long and useful life, and left his impress upon the times in which he lived. He possessed the rare combination of being useful alike in both Church and State.

It has been my good fortune to know him personally for many years, but in politics and the law I knew him best. In politics he was learned and useful both to his party and his people. His strong common sense coupled with his unswerving integrity and a thorough knowledge of affairs, enabled him to exert a powerful, and always wholesome influence among his associates in the political affairs of the State. He was masterful as an ally, and dangerous as an antagonist. He hit hard blows in debate, and his sledge hammer blows rarely fell short.

He was thoroughly trained in statecraft as well as in the law. His effective work upon the hustings and his services for many years in the State Legislature and in Congress, gave him a wide knowledge of men and measures. These varied experiences made him useful, and there was consequently a continuous demand, by the political party to which he belonged, for his services in every political campaign for almost a half century in this, one of the foremost States of the American Republic.

He was also a voluminous writer on economic and semi-political questions. I doubt if any other man in the great State

of Ohio has written more on political economy than our deceased friend—Judge Lawrence. And better than all, his writings could be understood. He never spoke in platitudes, but always with clearness of vision and always to the point.

But, Mr. President, as a lawyer and jurist his fame must mainly rest. The text books which he has written, and the several volumes of opinions rendered by him while he served as First Comptroller of the Treasury of the United States, brought him to the favorable notice of the profession throughout the land, and brought him also enduring fame. These learned decisions have never been equaled or excelled by any other lawyer who hitherto or since has been called to fill that exalted and exacting position.

Judge Lawrence possessed a discriminating mind, and this along with his strong common-sense, thoroughgoing integrity, and his untiring energy, rendered his decisions, as a jurist, of great value to the profession wherever they have been studied and read.

Judge Lawrence was not only a great man, but he was also an honest man. He was, in all his acts, as perpendicular as the Washington monument. He never veered from right living, and was always just towards his fellow men. The Scotch peasant poet expressed a volume in a single stanza, when he said:

“From scenes like these old Scotia’s grandure springs  
Which make her loved at home, revered abroad;  
Princes and lords are but the breath of kings,  
An honest man is the noblest work of God.”

I remark also, my fellow citizens, that our deceased friend was a religious man. His influence was ever on the moral side of any and all questions. He always stood by his pastor. He stood by his Church. He stood by this University. He stood by the Savior and the Cross. He stood by the “old ship Zion” as she bears upon her prowess, the noble and glorious message of “Glory to God in the highest, on earth peace and good will to men.”

Judge Lawrence will be missed at Bellfontaine. We will miss him here at Delaware in our Board of Trustee meetings of this great University which he loved so well. The people of Ohio at large will miss him. But our loss will be his gain for ever. May his ashes rest in peace.



## ADDRESS

*Of Governor G. W. Atkinson, D. C. L., at the Opening of the  
Oriental Carnival of the Benevolent and Protective  
Order of Elks, at the City of Wheeling, W. Va.*

*June 26th, 1899.*

(From the Wheeling Daily Intelligencer, June 27, 1899.)

MY FELLOW CITIZENS OF WHEELING, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN:—

One cannot but be impressed by this august presence and this splendid display. I count it, indeed, a high privilege, upon an occasion so fraught with interest, to be permitted to speak, for a short time, to this massive throng of my fellow countrymen. I am here to-day at the request of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, an institution known all over the civilized world, to whose enterprise our people are indebted for this splendid demonstration.

Secret societies, my friends, were old and well established when the soldiers of Julius Caesar landed on the shores of Britain; old when Alexander carried the civilization of Asia into Europe; old when the Pyramids were constructed on the banks of the Nile; old when Ninevah and Babylon were piled upon the banks of the Tigris and the Euphrates. They antedated Rome and Athens, Confucius, David, Saul and Solomon; and no one can deny that Secret Societies did not lay the foundation stones of the Pyramids themselves. In our own country, back to the landing of the Pilgrims at Plymouth and the Cavaliers at Jamestown, they trace their origin; and they have been gaining headway ever since. If I mistake not, they will continue to grow by the rolling of the years. The people—the common people—demand them, and they, therefore, cannot be suppressed.

Standing to-day in the twilight of the nineteenth century, some of you may ask what need have we for Secret Societies like the "Elks," what have they done, and what title have they to public favor? I answer, in the ages when the blackness of paganism shrouded the world; when idols were set up for worship in the temples; when the advocates of religious rites were

subjected to cruel torture; when many were compelled to bow the knee to Baal; then it was that thoughtful men assembled in secret counsel and resolved to be free and to think for themselves, and there they decided to worship the true and living God. All along the centuries Societies like the Elks have stood out bravely and heroically for religious toleration, and openly and publicly proclaimed the doctrine of the Fatherhood of God and the Brotherhood of man; and by such action they have made the world cleaner and sweeter and kinder and happier.

My fellow citizens, mighty things have been worked out in this the youngest of the great Nations, as the Nineteenth century is grandly rolling out; and yet we are entering upon a new era to be begun by the Twentieth century of which the Nineteenth was only the preparation. What we behold to-day is but the presage of that which is to follow. Progress is the law of the ages. A point which was yesterday invisible, is the goal of to-day, and will be the starting point of tomorrow. We look into the future and hail the coming of the morn, radiant and effulgent, when this beautiful world which we now inhabit will be ablaze with the radiant splendor of new discoveries which would blind the eyes of those now living, were they in their fullness to break upon us now. It seems to me, my friends, that more potent to-day than at any other period of the world's history, are most manifest all instrumentalities for the bettering of the human race. May the lightening spare the walls of our glorious civilization, and may peace, like a ministering angel, illumine our firesides, and may the shadows of the centuries continue to be upon our splendid Ohio Valley—the richest of all the great valleys of the earth. (Applause.)

Man should not live for himself alone. Where is the one who can look along the line of the receding ages, back into the long forgotten past, who will not say that man should not live outside himself? Not one. The true, manly man will seek to aid others, and will strive to preserve that which is most perfect, most beautiful and ennobling in the earth. Thus the subtle and mischievous speculations of the ancient sophists have been supplanted by the philosophy which recognizes, not only human morals, but the divinity of God, and the eternity of the soul. Like a beautiful stream, rippling over the rocks and crags and pebbles of its channel, flowing by every door, singing over the same sweet song of untiring love, gladdening all hearts; and

along the course of this true gospel of peace, benevolence and protection spring fresh and fragrant the flowers of beauty, innocence and truth to adorn the lives of all believers and lend a lasting perfume to the works of faith and labor and love. Such, my friends, is the chief purpose of an Order like this one called "the Elks".

It has been properly said, my hearers, that every Government on the earth is founded upon some form of religion. A system of morals based upon some religion, binding upon every individual, is necessary to constitute a State. While the society of Elks is not specifically religious, yet it opposes atheism, because atheism produces disobedience to law, disloyalty to sovereignty, and engenders materialism, rationalism, socialism, nihilism, communism and other false doctrines wholly inimical to constitutional government, subversive of civil liberty and destructive of true manhood everywhere. This excellent Order of Elks, like all others of its class, clearly sees this great and growing evil, with all of its concurrent vices, as the monster with which the next generation of our people must grapple in a final deathly struggle; and when it comes, as come it will, it will be a struggle between law and anarchy, liberty and despotism, order and plunder, happiness and misery. In this spirited contest, this great Society, if I mistake not, will be an ally of law, order, liberty, happiness; and so will all of these secret organizations that I know anything about—and I am familiar with a number of them—be the last to furl their banners and retire from the field.

All of these large, benevolent Orders teach men to enquire what they are, whence they came, and whither they are tending? No one can consent to the belief that *death ends all*. The soul rebels intuitively against that dogma. No one can persuade himself to the belief that his life is but a bubble cast upon the ocean of eternity to float for a moment on its waves and then sink out of sight forever. The rainbow and the clouds, the stars which hold their midnight festivals in the sky, the bright forms of human beauty, and the high and glorious aspirations that leap like angels from the temples of our hearts, all teach that man is born for a higher destiny, and that there is a realm where the rainbow never fades, where the stars always shine, and flowers bloom unending in the summer-land of song. Don't you know, my countrymen, that this Order teaches this doctrine? Who, then, can have the temerity to oppose it?



The rush and enterprise and energy of modern times, my fellow citizens, have done much that is good. They have carried along education, morals, religion, government and law. But in these driving times, *Business* has made itself absolutely supreme. Everywhere its maxims rule—everywhere its dictates are obeyed. Pity lifts its eyes, but touches no heart. Conscience parts its lips as if to speak, but its voice is unheeded and unheard. Charity extends her hand to bless, and often blesses not. This great power, or something which we call “Business”, dictates and is obeyed. Its mandates are the law. Labor is often slavery, although no overseer may crack his whip, and no master wields the rod. In these aggressive times nothing is considered which is not based upon well established principles of business. This great Street Carnival in Wheeling is *business*, and we are here to help to make it go; and when this living present, this marvelous, progressive business age shall have itself become the dead and distant past, those that succeed us shall find in us an example worthy of all imitations, and derive a new inspiration from the contemplation of the faded but not forgotten glories of an historic past. (Applause.)

It is gratifying to all of us, my friends, that a spirit of improvement is abroad in the land. Everything about us seems to be in agitation. Literature and science have taken up their march. Mighty are the interpositions of thought. Wonderful are the developments on all and every hand. Two facts, like the hands of God, uphold the world to-day. One is Faith—the other is Work. The power to *believe* and the power to *work* mark the genius and destiny of nations and men. *The man who trusts and works and does not falter, is the man that wins.* This Society, as I understand it, plants its existence and its future upon these great truths. It trusts in the Divine, and it works to uplift the human race. No wonder it has already won an enduring record.

Although not a political institution, nor a reformatory institution, nor a religious institution; yet it is a progressive institution, a charitable institution, and a philosophical institution. It nevertheless insists on purity in politics, “golden-rule” living between man and man, a proper recognition of an *All Wise God*, keeps apace with the progress of the times, lifts up the fallen, helps the erring, and stands upon the immutable rock of Truth, which is the basis of true philosophy and the

highest ideal of citizenship in all countries and in all lands.

My friends, when the world is without suffering and oppression, the Philanthropist and the Samaritan may rest from their labors. When Governments are in all respects perfect, the political economist may seek the shades of retirement. When the realm of science is exhausted, the philosopher can pause in his onward march to the infinite; and when these have performed their offices, and there is no longer the wail that goes up continually from agonizing hearts, then may the Charitable human being fold his arms and lie down to silent slumber until the ages cease to roll. But this cannot be accomplished until the follies of life are forever cast aside, and the great, seething mass of mankind are harmoniously united in the bonds of universal brotherhood, and all the people have resolved that by the wisdom of faith, the strength of hope, and the beauty of benevolence, under God they will be one. Then, and not before, will the people sustain in life and transmit in death, pure and unsullied, the fair and noble fabric of Benevolence, Justice, Brotherly-love, Fidelity and Truth which this great Order has erected to secure the happiness and prosperity of mankind.

Pardon me, my countrymen, for a few words in conclusion, specific of the Order which has planned, and will carry out this splendid Street Carnival and Industrial Exhibition. The Order of *Elks* sprang from the society called "The Jolly Corks", which was changed into the name of the present organization. It was in the beginning confined to Actors alone; but finding that the Society could not be held together by that distinctive class of members, its by-laws were widened so as to take in all other professions and businesses in life. The Order teaches charity, brotherly-love, justice and fidelity. I am informed that when one joins the Elks, he is promised charitable and benevolent treatment, and will be relieved when he is financially, or from ill health, unable to help himself. Its Lodges are found in every State and Territory in the Republic. It is, beyond question, one of the great and growing Secret Societies of the Century, and is worthy of the confidence and patronage of good people everywhere.

I thank you, my friends, for the consideration you have given me, and I trust that the week of the opening of the Oriental Carnival may be one of pleasure and profit to you all. (Applause.)

## TO THE SOUTH

*Governor Atkinson Pays One of His Glowing Tributes in Acknowledging Receipt of Invitation. Announces His Intention of Attending if Official Duties Do Not Interfere.*

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*July 8, 1899.*

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(Charleston Gazette.)

Governor Atkinson yesterday acknowledged the receipt of the invitation from the chamber of commerce of Huntsville, Ala., to attend the industrial convention which is to be held there next September. The Governor expresses his desire to be present at the convention and announces his intention of doing so if public duties do not interfere. His letter is a glowing tribute to the South, which the Governor knows so well how to praise. The letter is addressed to N. F. Thompson, Secretary of the chamber of commerce of Huntsville, Alabama. It says: I have before me your letter of July 3rd, calling my attention to the fact of an industrial convention to be held at Huntsville Monday, September 4th, next, and inviting me to be present. Being a Southern man myself, both by birth and education, it is needless for me to say that I am in deep sympathy with any movement that will advance the industrial progress of the entire South. I have always held that the South should be, and will be, the main manufacturing section of our great Republic. I have adhered to this idea because of the fact that the raw materials are found in the South, and a wise Providence certainly intended that manufacturing should be conducted where the raw material exists. If the South, years ago, had taken up this question in its proper light, and had undertaken to manufacture its raw material on its own soil, employing its own labor and thus keeping its own money for distribution in its own territory, it would have been far in advance of what it now is.

I am glad to know, however, that within the last few years it has abandoned its former custom of shipping its raw material to northern sections where it was manufactured, and then pur-



chasing the finished products, paying the manufacturer's prices for the same, and has gone to work doing its own manufacturing. The South has the advantage of the Northern States in both coal, soil and climate, as well as in other natural resources; therefore, if proper enterprise be shown by our Southern people, they will transfer during the next generation practically all the manufacturing establishments from the Northern and Central portions of the Republic to the Southland, where they ought to have been for a hundred years.

I have spoken my views briefly upon this subject, and in plain language, because I am interested in the development and advancement of the South, and have done my utmost for a quarter of a century to help my own people along in life. I trust that this industrial gathering of our Southern people in your city, will give a fresh impetus to Southern development, and that it will largely be attended by our representative people.

I cannot now say, because of my public duties and responsibilities, whether I can be with you or not, but whether I am there or not, you have my sympathies and will have all the assistance in my power to forward the objects of the gathering.

Cordially and truly yours,

G. W. ATKINSON,  
Governor of West Virginia.

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## THE NEGRO PROBLEM.

*Governor Atkinson's Views Briefly Expressed on the Negro Problem in the South.*

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*July 21, 1899.*

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EDITOR "SUNDAY INTER OCEAN,"  
Chicago, Ill.

DEAR SIR:

Replying to your inquiry relative to the "Negro Problem in the South," I will say briefly, that it is one of the most important questions that confronts us as a Nation. I have thought

much upon it, and I frankly confess that I cannot solve it. I am a Virginian, and am therefore "to the manor born." I am familiar with the existing sentiment in the South against the negro. Southern people will not submit to negro rule "They will die first." This is an old Southern expression, and they mean it when they say it.

I have carefully read the expressions used by one "Major Vardaman, of Mississippi," bearing upon the Negro Problem, which you kindly enclosed to me. He is one of the old, moss-back, fossil "Majah's" of the South, who sits around on nail-kegs and empty dry-goods boxes, and smokes, and whittles, and "cusses," and "shoots off his mouth" on Southern rights, Southern dignity, and Southern institutions and ideas. Much of what he says is correct and much is incorrect. When he says the Southern people have an abiding prejudice against the negro, and that they will never allow the negro to dominate them in any shape or form, he tells the truth. But when he says it is folly to attempt to advance the negro race by education, and in this way qualify them for responsibility and power, and that any effort, educationally or otherwise, to uplift the negroes, is a waste of time, because by so doing we spoil corn-field hands and make "shysters" professional men,—he simply loses sight of good judgment and fair dealing, and seeks only to vent his narrowness, prejudice and spleen against his "brother in black." Such men as this old "Majah" are clogs to the wheels of civilization and progress, and are a consequent curse to our fair *Southland*.

Of course, you cannot convince him, the "Majah," that in making such foolish statements, he is not absolutely orthodox, and thinks that he is honestly helping all he can to settle the race controversy in the South. He, therefore, feels that he is doing right. He thinks he is honest. He knows that the great mass of Southern people will sustain him when he says that the South will not allow negro domination; but he did not stop to realize that he jumped into *deep water* when he said that the negro cannot be developed into anything but "shysters" by education. He simply allowed his prejudice to run off with his judgment. As a Southern man, bred and born, I deny the right for such prejudiced *fossils* as this dear, old "Majah" to speak *for me*.

Major Vardaman refers slightly to Booker T. Washington and his school. I have known Booker Washington from his in-

fancy, and I know of his integrity and his capacity, and his honest aims in the direction of solving the race problem in the South. The very fact that Washington has made his way from slavery and poverty to the high position he now occupies as a man of brains and education, itself proves the assertion of "Majah" Vardaman to be false, that education only makes a negro "*a shyster lawyer or a fourth-rate teacher.*"

I do not have the honor of Major Vardaman's personal acquaintance, but I will wager a farthing that Booker T. Washington has forgotten more than the said "Majah" Vardaman will know, if he were to be allowed to live a thousand years. In my observation and experience, covering over a quarter of a century, I can truthfully say that there is a vast difference between *brains and bravado.*

The negro can and will be educated, despite such men as "Majah" Vardaman, of the State of Mississippi.

G. W. ATKINSON,  
Governor of West Virginia.

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## FOR VICE-PRESIDENT.

*Governor Atkinson Thinks a West Virginian Should be put on the National Republican Ticket for Vice President in 1900.*

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(From the New York World, July 23, 1899.)

Governor Atkinson to a New York World reporter: — "Being a Southern man by both birth and education, naturally I would favor placing a Southern Republican on the National ticket for Vice President, provided one can be found who will accept the office, who is absolutely sound and reliable on all great National questions. I mean by the word "sound" one whose life record has no *ins and outs*; one who always has been true to every trust; one who has never wavered under pressure of any sort; one who has never exhibited "a streak of rabbit" when emergencies arise; in short, an out and out man who always *walks erect* and who has never been known to waver in "a pinch". We have had one sad experience by putting a Southern Republican on our ticket



for Vice President. We cannot afford to have that experience repeated. The party will take no risks of that sort again.

"Fortunately we have several big Republicans in the South, who have always been with us squarely upon all of the great principles of the party. There would be no risk in choosing one of them. You can always trust a man who is "died in the wool". If certain doctrines and principles are found in the "warp and woof," there is no danger of a serious change of front, whatever emergency might arise.

"I say *yes* in answer to your query. I certainly will favor a Southern man for Vice President, if we can get the right kind of a man to agree to become a candidate for the office. But I will say *no* emphatically, unless his life record has been as true as a rain-drop upon all great questions which concern the country and the people.

"West Virginia, which is a Southern State, has two men big enough and broad enough to fill the office, both of whom were born and reared Republicans, and whose records cannot be questioned. If either of them would accept the trust, there would be no quibbling, if by accident either of them should become President. I refer to Senator Stephen B. Elkins and Judge Nathan Goff. They are big caliber men, and any one who knows them personally will agree that they would grace the Presidency itself. There are other Republicans in the South that I am sure would be trusted, but none are superior to either Elkins or Goff.

"The South is going to be the big end of this country before many years, and it is high time that the Republican party recognizes this fact.

"G. W. ATKINSON,  
"Governor of West Virginia."

CHARLESTON, W. Va.  
July 19, 1899.

## ROBT. G. INGERSOLL.

*Governor Atkinson's Views of Col. Robert G. Ingersoll.*

To the Editor of "Truth",  
New York.

DEAR SIR:—

Replying to your request for my views of Col. Robert G. Ingersoll, recently deceased, I beg to say that, for many years, I have admired him as a rhetorician, an orator, a lawyer, a politician and a patriot. I doubt if our country has ever produced his like as an orator and a forensic speaker. He is easily the "Lord Brougham" of the American bar, and the Wendell Phillips of the American platform. No one can rob him of these just claims. No American has ever surpassed him in the power to move and control an audience. In these equipments he was supremely great, and I believe the mass of our people generally admit it. Yet, in the estimation of the real merits of a manly man, there is something more required to entitle one to enduring fame than the marvelous natural powers and gifts possessed by the late Col. Ingersoll. I admit all that his friends claim for him as a great American, and yet I differ from his particular admirers in this, that he is entitled to the special consideration of anybody upon the main line of his life-work.

Col. Ingersoll seemed to delight, on every occasion, to ridicule the Christian religion and those that believe in it. This course brought to him weak-minded admirers, who possessed no fixed principles of morals, and who had no definite convictions on the broad "golden rule" of living, which teaches what is right, and what is wrong. Naturally Col. Ingersoll would please and gratify this class of people, and they are many. Such people, however, do not think for themselves. They necessarily delight in having some one to formulate a basis of action which will give them an excuse to live riotously and defy the God who created them. They revel in the thought that they had some one, eloquent and able, who could stand between them and their consciences. With such people, as a matter course, Col. Inger-

soll was powerful and irresistible, because his religion allowed them to do as they pleased—and more especially when they pleased not to do right.

Such a religious teacher will always have a following.

But Col. Ingersoll is dead, and only a few of our American people mourn. No one will proclaim that he was not a man of good impulses. No one will deny that he practiced, in his daily walks, the big human end of religion, by trying to lift up, in his way, the human race, and by trying to teach, in a social sense, higher ideals of life and duty. But in carrying out his ideas of right and wrong, he delighted seemingly in attacking a principle that has for two thousand years fostered the growth, development, civilization and enlightenment of the human race. He sought the destruction of this great principle, and offered nothing in its place. He assailed the deep-seated religious tendency of the human family, with ridicule and invective, and offered no compensation for the idols he sought to shatter. He appeared on all possible occasions, open to him, before great audiences, and seemed to delight in attacking and ridiculing the teachings of the gospel of the Christ. Although he offered nothing better, he seemed to be honest in saying what he did; and yet, the great mass of our people could not but believe that he was all the while talking “for revenue only”.

If he had offered something substantial and real to take the place of the faith of which he sought to deprive us, we might all the more respect him in life, and mourn for him in death. But, as I view it, his whole life-work seemed to be a determination to snuff out forever the torch of the Christian religion, which has for twenty centuries enlightened and brightened and beautified and ennobled the world, and at the same time substitute nothing in its place, I cannot conclude otherwise than that he, by so doing, was an enemy to himself and the entire human race.

I have heard Col. Ingersoll lecture against my religious convictions. I have read, perhaps, all of his writings. His criticisms of the Bible and the Christian religion were, to mind, purely superficial. Any well informed man or woman could easily and readily answer all of the “points” he thought he made. He left the impression upon me that all he was seeking, in his attacks upon the Bible and the Christian Church,—that all he was apparently seeking was general notoriety and \$200.00 a night and expenses for his lectures. He is



now gone. His light went out in the twinkling of an eye. He has but few mourners, because his teachings did no one any good. His doctrines, if carried out, would narrow and belittle mankind. No principle that he assayed to teach could make the world cleaner and sweeter and kinder and happier. The virile opposition that he thundered against Christianity was helpful instead of an injury to its growth and progress. There has been vast progress in religious growth and work in the United States contemporaneously with Col. Ingersoll's self-appointed and self-sacrificing mission. No man perhaps since the days of Voltaire has done so much as Ingersoll to rob the people of our country of their peace of mind, to promote loose thinking and immoral living, and to undermine the foundations of that Christian civilization upon whose preservation and development the progress and welfare of humanity depend.

Col. Ingersoll has now gone to his own place,—to his own reward. No longer does he “see through a glass darkly”, as the Apostle expressed it. With him the great mystery of the future is forever solved. His name is left behind indissolubly linked with many virtues and with transcendent genius, but with it all is the one great mistake, that he ignored and ridiculed the God who made him for which he has, or will hereafter have to answer.

Living, I admired Ingersoll; dead, I say “peace to his ashes.”

G. W. ATKINSON.

CHARLESTON, W. VA.,

July 25th, 1899.

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## LABOR DAY PROCLAMATION.

STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA,

EXECUTIVE CHAMBER,

CHARLESTON, AUG. 5th, 1899.

WHEREAS, By enactment of the Legislature, at its last general session, the first Monday of September of each year is to be set apart as Labor Day, which should be observed as a general holiday throughout the State.

Now, therefore, I, George W. Atkinson, Governor of the State

of West Virginia, do hereby recommend and request that on

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 1899,

All places where labor is employed within the State of West Virginia, shall be closed, and that every available opportunity may be given to those who earn their living by the sweat of their brows to celebrate and honor the day which our lawmakers saw fit to dedicate to them.

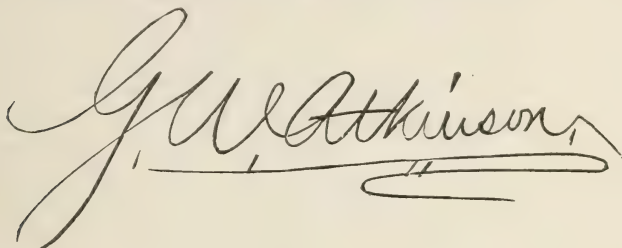
We have recently passed through a war with Spain, which we believe was a war destined by Almighty God for the upbuilding and advancement of the human race. Our arms and principles were triumphant. We should, therefore, be duly thankful. The victories we won in our conflict with Spain were the natural results of our superiority, as a race of educated artisans and mechanics, as well as a nation thoroughly schooled in the arts of war. A nation that can supply its people with all their needs, and at the same time furnish all of the munitions of modern warfare, is necessarily an irrepressible nation. Such a nation is the United States of America. Our people are not only an independent people, but they are a self-reliant people. They have learned the secret of how to care for themselves. The nation, therefore, that attempts to trample upon the American flag, or the American doctrine of equal rights in the great theater of life for any and all, has assumed an undertaking difficult to carry out. Spain found it so. Other nations that may try the same thing, will meet with like results.

*"Labor omnia vincit"* is as true to-day as it was when the birds in the garden of Eden sang their songs at the birth of the human race, Labor is wealth, and labor alone produces wealth. The whole world knows this to be true. Therefore, as a State, we should honor the producers of wealth; and this is the reason our Legislature created a holiday which shall be known and honored as "Labor Day."

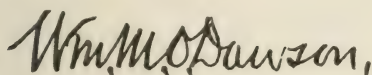
It is, in consequence of all these facts, especially fitting and proper, that all men, employers and employees, should lay aside for this day their usual vocations, and by meeting in public assemblies, and in all practical and fitting ways, seek to emphasize the dignity and worth of labor, and consider ways and means for a marked elevation and improvement of the condition of the honest, faithful, industrious toilers and wealth-producers of our State.

[SEAL.]

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the great seal of the State to be hereunto affixed, at the Capitol, in the city of Charleston, this 5th day of August, A. D. 1899, and in the 37th year of the State.

A large, elegant handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "G. M. Atkinson". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping underline.

By the Governor:

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Wm. M. Dawson". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping underline.

Secretary of State.

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## LYNCHINGS.

*Governor Atkinson Emphatically Against Lynch Law.*

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*Aug. 9, 1899.*

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EDITOR "BROADWAY MAGAZINE,"

1123 Broadway,  
New York, N. Y.

DEAR SIR:

On receipt of your letter of the 7th instant, I purchased a copy of your August number, and I judge from your editorial comments, referred to in your letter, that you had, in your July issue, made some statement indorsing, under certain circumstances, mob violence.

I am a Virginian and know pretty well the character and



make-up of our Southern people. In many ways we have been misjudged by our Northern brethren. Our people are free-hearted and full-blooded. We try to take care of ourselves as best we can, and we have never allowed anybody to trample upon us. In these matters we are, I think, pre-eminently right. But I confess that some parts of the South, by the hot-headedness of some of the people, have greatly injured the entire Southland. Our people, as a rule, are lawabiding and lawobeying. It is a gross injustice for Northern newspapers to charge generally that the people of the South have no respect for law, simply because a few persons here and there take the law in their own hands by resorting to mob violence. The great mass of Southern people are as obedient to law as are the people of the North. Their purpose is to do right, but they will not be trampled upon by anybody North or South.

Now, as to lynching, or lynch-law, which is the subject of your editorial, I wish to say that I am at all times, under all circumstances and forever against it. I believe nine times out of ten, the wrong parties have been strung up. I have myself witnessed three lynchings, and it afterwards turned out that two of the three were entirely innocent; and so it is generally. Hence it ought not to be tolerated on that account. Moreover it is both morally and legally wrong for any excited body of men to assume the right to take the law in their own hands, however great the provocation for such violence may appear. Lynchers cannot be classed other than as murderers in the sight of God and in the eyes of the laws of any and all States. Therefore, it seems to me, that every good citizen of all races and conditions should oppose mob violence. The Courts in most of the Southern States, if not indeed, in all of them, do their full duty. Why, then, not allow every case of alleged crime to be fairly heard and properly adjudicated upon its merits?

Lynchings are rare occurrences in West Virginia. We have had but one in many years. I have always opposed them and always shall.

Cordially and truly yours,

G. W. ATKINSON,  
Governor of West Va.

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MODERN EDUCATIONAL REQUIREMENTS.

*"Recognition Day" Address at Chautauqua, N. Y., Delivered  
by Governor Geo. W. Atkinson, D. C. L.,  
of West Virginia.*

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*August 16, 1899.*

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[From the Daily Chautauquan, Aug. 17, 1899.]

MR. PRESIDENT, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN:

It is a pleasure, I assure you, to come from my Southern home to this charming lake, and to this, the mother of all of our Chautauqua Assemblies, to talk to you for a little while on "Recognition Day". This is a magnificent audience, and a great occasion. It seems to me that any one should be able to speak, at least a little, when inspired by the presence of such a gathering of one's own countrymen as this. I have heard much of the hardheaded intelligence and the softhearted kindness of the good people who assemble every year, for study and for health, upon the banks of this beautiful inland lake; and I am pleased to say that my several visits here have fully confirmed my most sanguine expectations as to the beauties and advantages of the place. Everything is attractive around us to-day. The hills, the vales, the foliage, the lake, the steamers, the cottages, the trees, the auditorium, the halls, the ladies,—all things about this sylvan spot are both beautiful and charming. It is therefore delightful and, I trust, profitable, for all of us to be here.

I have, on more than one occasion, my friends, publicly declared that the discovery and development of what is commonly called the "Chautauqua Idea", is one of the greatest discoveries of the century, which is now so grandly rolling out. Why do I say it? I will tell you: First, because it affords to the millions of our people a systematic method or plan for a proper use of our leisure. After all, my friends, this is a most important matter. Every human being has several leisure hours on his hands every day of his life. How best can he spend this leisure? Chautauqua has answered,—by spending it in system-

atically arranged courses of reading and study at his own fireside. One will be amazed at the headway he can make in ten years by carefully following the Chautauqua methods of reading and study. If he is thoughtful and earnest and honest in his work, in ten years he will not only find himself well-read and well-informed, but he will find himself also well up in actual scholarship. It is, therefore, the common people's college, and its courses of instruction are so admirably arranged that it somehow induces the toiling millions to voluntarily grapple with all subjects and with all knowledge. Nobody, who possesses good sense, in these times will say that education is a bad thing. Some say that we need more science and less languages; others, more mathematics and less classics; others, more, mechanics and less technique; but all say education is absolutely essential to good citizenship, because all the people know that education is power. The world, in this our day, is a vast chess-board, and we are all players on it,—and the educated, skilled players always win in every contest.

Again I remark, Mr. President, that this is a *practical* school. It is not a place where intellectual pyrotechnics are touched off. What one gets here in the way of education, he can turn to an account in life. Lop-sided men and women do not usually pass through these varied arches. These students come up here on "Recognition Day", with heads and hearts erect, and with shoulders as intellectually square as the massive physique of John L. Sullivan, James J. Corbett, or Bob Fitzsimmons. The common sense doctrine is taught here that he is best educated who makes his body subservient to his will; that the great end of life, after all, is not so much dependent upon what is commonly called education as upon *action*. My Chautauqua courses of study have taught me that what we need most is only as much knowledge as we can assimilate and organize into a basis for action; for if more be given, it may become injurious. The world, my hearers, is filled with intellectual "wet-logs", rendered such by undigested learning. Over study is as injurious as no study. Too many coats of paint will crack under sun pressure, and are as ineffectual as no paint; while on the other hand, thin veneering is absolutely useless. So it is with education. We should beware of overloading lest we become topheavy; but we should take on enough learning to render us intelligent and useful men and women. The ordinary



life of an individual is not unlike the feeble flame of a miner's lamp, half smothered in some underground gallery until a draft of vital air kindles it into sudden glow and sparkle. Thus it is with the human family,—many of us have but a dull flicker of half-alive consciousness, until some outward breath causes it to flash into quick and quivering splendor. This outward breath is knowledge, and he who shines brightest and leaves the deepest impress upon his fellows, is the evenly educated man,—one who believes also in God and heaven and immortality.

Most of us, my friends, have enough ideas, but the trouble is our ideas are too vague. We have thoughts enough, but they are too nebulous. Like the milky way in the sky, they never crystalize into stars. We read without digesting, and while the intellect is thus widened, it often fails to focus when we desire to use that which we have studied, and had reason to believe that we thoroughly understood. We often make mistakes by too much digging in the dust-heaps of the past, instead of delving into the living mounds of the present. The genuine pay-dirt, as the miners express it, always lies below the surface. Only certain kinds of soil however will allow subsoiling. So it is with the human mind. It will not always pay one to plow too deep; and yet we should go deep enough to reach the cream of the soil which of necessity must lie below the surface. Books explain us to ourselves. Man tests man by rubbing up against one another, and all other tests are spurious. No one is, practically speaking, alive only in so far as he realizes life. One's motive is the measure of his existence. Appreciation brings out thought and development. Therefore the mind must be nourished if it expects to grow. Chautauqua is the biggest, broadest intellectual gravel bed that I know of in this, or any other country, and is doing more to nourish the intellects of the masses than any other system of education extant, except the public schools of the common country. The reading courses and round-tables of the Chautauqua system are producing marvelous educational results, to say nothing of the higher grade work by the Chautauqua University whose instructions go out from this place.

My friends, the scenes are rapidly shifting in the great theatre of the world, as the old century is rolling out and the new century is coming in. With the old goes much that is worthless—

with the new is coming that which will be most useful and practical. The Reformation of the 16th century brought a revelation in religious thought, and the times in which we are living are bringing revelations in the methods of education for the masses of mankind; and the Chautauqua idea is in the forefront of these wonderful revelations. There is absolutely no room in the world for those that are intellectually deaf and blind. Unfortunately there are men born deaf and dumb and blind, and there are men born with all these senses who are as blind as bats, as dumb as oysters and as deaf as posts. In these times is there an excuse for this? I think none can be honestly offered.

Kant aptly said that the ultimate object of life and of all knowledge, is to give replies to the following three questions: "1. What can I do? 2. What ought I to do? 3. What may I hope for?" These are momentous inquiries, and involve momentous problems. We can, if we will, do most every thing that is possible. We ought to do our utmost in all of our undertakings, and then we can hope for great results. I admit frankly that the "Chautauqua idea" has done much in the way of answering Kant's three great questions. The wise student will not turn away from any difficulty that confronts him. He will persistently press forward. He will not allow his way to be blocked by any ordinary impediment. In this great Chautauqua school, the faithful student gets knowledge which is practical—that which he can use. You who are before me work to know something, and not to pass examinations merely for the purpose of procuring degrees which of themselves are practically worthless. I have found that educational institutions do not make men any more than physical organization makes life. Men make themselves; therefore all should strive after the highest possible ideal. All knowledge is good, but practical knowledge is the best, because it can be turned to the greatest purposes in life.

Many of these students, Mr President, wring knowledge from the hard hand of penury. They study more than they boat. They burn oil at their desks oftener than they rupture their muscles at foot-ball, and they waste none of their time at the opera or the pool-room. When they exercise their bodies, it is in honest toil earning honest bread by the sweat of their brows. Nor in this great school of work-a-day pupils do the fat ones swallow the lean, nor do the big ones trample upon the small.

It is a cosmopolitan school wherein every fellow has an equal chance without reference to conditions or surroundings. This is an institution, as I understand it, in which thought is practically free from all fetters, and in which all courses of knowledge and all aids to learning are accessible to all comers, without distinction of creed or country, riches or poverty. It is distinctively a school for the masses, and he who will, may enter; and "the whosoever will" are the sort of people that avail themselves of the real opportunities in life, and thus leave their footprints indelibly in the sands of time. I wouldn't give one honest, upright, square-shouldered individual, who has it in his mind and heart to do something for himself and his fellows, for a regiment of dukes and "dukesses," barons and baronesses, counts and countesses, who, although they may affix a "B. A." after their signatures, yet have but little more brains than a "pewee" or a "whippoorwill" or "Katydid." Don't you know, my friends, that the world is filled with these sorts of mountebanks and charlatans who live and die, and the great mass of mankind have not been bettered by their living, but are surely bettered when they die? Pardon me, my fellow citizens, for saying in this presence, that the world needs, above all others, men and women with teeth and corners and edges in them and on them to lift the world to higher conceptions of life and duty and responsibility to God and the human race. These are the sort of people that leave their impress upon society everywhere. These are the sort of people that make the world better and broader and nobler and grander; and these are the kind of people that are the life and power and backbone of this great Chautauqua movement.

The desire to fathom the meaning of life, my hearers, is the most constant and universal of human longings. I have found from reading and observation that nothing else interests the human like the human. Man's greatest study therefore is man. Women, it is said, will talk about their neighbors. Philosophers study the thoughts of others, and it is the general desire of many to look after other peoples affairs more diligently than their own. *The knowledge of life*,—this seems to be the passionate quest of the whole race of men, and it is well that it is so. Books explain us to ourselves, and this is why we read them with pleasure and with profit. Some one aptly wrote, "Reading is the garden of joy to youth, but for



age it is a house of refuge." Nothing, in my judgment, could be more clearly and attractively expressed.

Literature in its largest sense is a reflection of human life. In it are mirrored the thoughts, the hopes, the intellectual development, the emotions, and the ideals not only of those who write it, but of those as well for whom it has been written. Just as a great statesman or a great soldier incarnates in his single person the political tendency or the military history of his own time, so does the great author give articulate utterance to the spirit of the age in which he lives.

Viewed in this way, it is evident that to read literature understandingly, we must read it not as a mass of isolated and unrelated products, whose meaning is wholly obvious and superficial. We must from the outset regard it as illustrating and embodying an unbroken unity. We must think of it as one great whole whose parts when taken separately and in detail may interest and instruct, but whose real significance can be rightfully perceived only when viewed in their relations to each other. Literature, in other words, is to be read always with the thought of comparison in mind, and with the means of comparison at hand.

This truth was long ago both understood and recognized; so that even in ancient times we find collections made for the purpose of affording to the intelligent reader an opportunity of perusing the masterpieces of past ages side by side with one another, in order that each might receive the interpretation that springs from a knowledge of such other works as reflect still other phases of the same intellectual or emotional inspiration.

Literature is a great study, my young friends, because it is the greatest of all sources of refined pleasure; and one of the leading sources of liberal education is to enable one to enjoy that pleasure. There is scope enough, my hearers, for the purposes of liberal education in the study of the rich treasures of our own language alone. All that is needed is proper direction and the arrangement of systematic courses, both of which you have here at Chautauqua, and both of which you are perseveringly carrying out; and this is one of the reasons why the work that you are doing has proven so effective. The lower and the higher education are but two parts of one great scheme, each ministering unto, and each receiving ministry from the other.

I am, and always have been, an earnest advocate of both. I believe firmly in the advantages of both systems. No school can supplant the university, nor can the university supplant the kind of training which you send out from this place. As I have said, one is dependent upon the other, and the world is dependent upon both. Everybody cannot attend the university, but everybody, who has sense and energy, can attend this school, and I am glad to know that something like a million of our people are doing it. This should be, and doubtless is encouraging to you.

The sort of education which emanates from here, embodies a broad and noble patriotism which is, as I understand it, entirely free from provincialism. The instruction which you give means more than love of mere territory. It means justice for all, helpfulness to the weak, and sympathy for the oppressed. You are helping to make patriots, Mr. President, and the educated patriot is the highest type of patriotism. A general, well rounded education promotes simple democracy. Wealth, birth, prestige, family avail nothing under true democracy. Education wipes out forever all such classes as these.

"It is neither wealth nor birth nor state,  
It is get-up-and-get that makes men great."

A general system of education creates the true democratic commonwealth; and the broader the education, the broader and better becomes the commonwealth. The common school is the absolute nursery of equality. The Church of the Christ is the greatest leveler, and the public school is the next, and both have proved to be essential to the betterment of the conditions of the human race. Dr. Thwing, a leader in thought, aptly remarked in one of his inimitable educational addresses, "Truth, without training, makes the mind a mere granary; training, without truth, makes the mind a mere mill without a grist to grind; truth and training make the mind a forcible agency of usefulness. But truth and training and culture make the mind a forcible agency both of usefulness and beauty." A great truth could not be more aptly expressed in so few words as these. We must conclude, therefore, that there is no real intellectual development that is not founded wholly upon truth. Education does for the mind what religion does for the soul. It trees out and builds up and broadens the intellect. One is

thus fitted to use his powers as the world may need them. The true education, therefore, is both of the mind and the soul. The genuine college life of to-day represents the endeavor of generations of zealous, earnest educators to make the present period of youth increasingly profitable. You have but to compare college curriculums of the present with the past, to prove that there is a constant growth in the variety of studies and the wonderfully improved methods of instruction. For more than two hundred years, the colleges of this country showed but little change or growth. The fact is, my hearers, the high school course of instruction of the present is almost, or quite, equal to the college course of sixty years ago. The boy now enters about where the colleges then left off. The last sixty years, therefore, have spread more than the spread or growth of the preceding two hundred years. Colleges and universities now seek to minister to higher scholarship. They not only train men now, but they promote real scholarship. Practically all of the States of the Union have themselves taken up college and university work at public expense, and these institutions indicate the breadth and extent of the present educational field and its limitations of work.

This progress or growth is also demonstrated by the higher education of women. By their education and advancement, the purpose is not particularly to make better wives or worthier mothers, but to qualify them for the great responsibilities of life, and to give them equal opportunities for the highest possible attainments and results. They are now being taught to be large-minded and broad-minded, without neglecting humbler duties and becoming narrow and pedantic. In short, they are taught to do the highest work by the wisest methods, with the richest possible results. The elevation of women and the growth of true womanhood, during the past half century, have bordered on the marvelous. Some one has said, and truly, that womanhood is the correct gauge of genuine civilization. In other words, the higher the standard of womanhood, the higher the standard of civilization in any and all countries. I believe this statement to be unqualifiedly true. Artemus Ward once said that the nation which uses the most soap is invariably the highest civilized nation. I admit that there is much truth in this proverb, but I assert in this splendid presence to-day, that that nation has reached the highest rung on civilization's lad-



der that respects and honors true womanhood the most. The nation that contains the most good mothers will live longest in the ever-existing scuffle of the survival of the fittest. Napoleon was, in my opinion, supremely right when he said that what France most needed was mothers—ideal mothers. What the young men of America need most in these progressive, driving times are wives—educated, conscientious Christian wives; and their offspring will be the ideal citizens of the future. With the right sort of wives and mothers, my word for it, my countrymen, the future will take care of itself. Given such, “the Great Republic” will perpetuate itself. Not given, our destiny will be dark and gloomy, indeed.

Education, Mr. President, represents the enlarged and enlarging intellectual life of our people, male and female. Its purpose and scope are to raise the intellectual level of all classes. It gives breadth, variety, richness to the mind. Our colleges, however, render a greater value, as I see it, in training men than in promoting scholarship. They make big, broad, brainy men, rather than scientists. Classical educations are great in the scope of their power and influence, and should not therefore be depreciated; but broad, cultured Christian manhood and womanhood are better still. One is great in proportion to his capacity to help his fellow man. One may be good without education, but his capacity to do good is restricted, because of the lack of the real implements of power, the greatest of which is culture. The best man, however, is not always the cultured man. The best man is God’s man,—the man who will do right, “sink or swim, live or die, survive or perish.” But one’s power for doing the greatest possible amount of good, in the shortest possible space of time, is the educated individual who worships God and loves his fellow man. We must, therefore, not disparage the Church, because it is not only the mother of right living, but it is also the mother of higher education as well.

College education was in the beginning wholly ecclesiastical. At that time the Church and State were one, and colleges were ruled wholly by the clergy. The next step in college work was intended to teach patriotism; and the third and the last step taken was to establish schools to fit young men and young women, in a general way, for all the duties and responsibilities of life. It is well to have ecclesiastical training and patriotic training, but better than all is the school that imparts general know-

ledge which will equip the student for the great and growing battles of life.

"Wouldst shape a noble life? Then cast  
No backward glance toward the past;  
And though somewhat be lost and gone,  
Yet do thou act as one new-born.  
What each day needs, that shalt thou ask;  
Each day will set its proper task.  
Give others' work just share of praise;  
Not of their own the merits raise.  
Beware no fellow man thou hate;  
And so in God's hand leave thy fate."

Will you pardon me, ladies and gentlemen, for a few general remarks as a sort of summing up of what I have endeavored to say in this necessarily imperfect address, and also some conclusions, which cover my own reading, study and experience in life?

First of all, let me remark that the most useful education is not only the education that is general and practical, but to be effective it must embody details. The reason that so many educated men and women fail of success in life, is because their knowledge is too general in its scope and character. Information is worthless, unless it can be applied to specific purposes. The man who succeeds is the man who has discriminating powers,—one who can see a point definitely and clearly, and who can meet the issue raised instantly by commanding what he knows, or what he has studied. It will avail you but little, or nothing, my young friends, to know everything, or a smattering of everything, if you cannot command it at the crucial moment. If you are engaged in one of the learned professions, you will be *cornered*, so to speak, almost every day of your lives, when the supreme test must come to prove your learning and your manhood or your womanhood. You will not be allowed time to refer to books or manuscripts to refresh your memories on what you have gone over. You must speak on the spot, or forever after hold your peace. You will therefore find exact knowledge, exact information, exact statement, to be the *sine qui non* which will pull you through the great conflicts in which you of necessity must engage. Therefore, I exhort you to look out for details. Do not overlook the little things which the average individual considers of no value. Small things massed together make great aggregates. To master details, however small, means absolute success in the end.

[Here the speaker gave a number of illustrations in a most attractive and convincing manner. He also discussed self-assertion and self-reliance, insisting that no one can succeed without these underlying essentials to real manhood and womanhood.]

I desire also to impress upon your minds, my hearers, that there can be no success in life without earnest, honest, persistent, life-long work. When one has finished his college course, he has only received the mere basis of an education. He has only acquired the habits of a student's life, and has simply gotten the "cue" to future toil. If he stops short, believing that he knows enough, and needs no more knowledge, he will soon find that he is badly mistaken. One may deceive himself, but he cannot long deceive others. President Lincoln once said, "You may deceive all the people part of the time, you may deceive part of the people all the time, but you cannot deceive all the people all the time." The great President was pre eminently correct, and you will find it so. The man who wins out in the end, is the one who incessantly toils, and none others ever rise above mediocrity in life.

[The speaker here elaborated the idea that work wins, and nothing else can enable him to succeed.]

There is another fact which I wish to impress upon your minds to-day, viz: we must inject heart and spirit into our undertakings, and we must also have warm, gurgling, sympathetic, palpitating hearts for the welfare of others. The narrow-souled, pop-eyed, pigeon-livered, selfish bigot—one who cannot see beyond, or get outside of himself—is too narrow and little and mean to ever get a strong grip upon his fellow men. Such an one will live and die and pass out of sight forever, and no one will cast a flower upon his bier or shed a tear above his grave.

[Upon this point the speaker eloquently pictured the outcome of a sympathetic nature, and a generous, loving heart. This was in fact, the most attractive portion of the address.]

In conclusion, my countrymen, let me tell you what I believe to be true, and that is, the well rounded, well educated man or woman, will be a Christian, and will build for the future.

[For ten minutes, or more, the speaker pictured, in the choicest language, the advantages of the Christian religion, and the life that is to come.]



## PROCLAMATION

*Issued by the Governor for Our People in General to Aid the  
Terribly Afflicted People of Porto Rico.*

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CHARLESTON, W. VA., August 17th, 1899.

TO THE PEOPLE OF WEST VIRGINIA:—

I am in receipt of the following letter from the Honorable Elihu Root, Secretary of War:

WAR DEPARTMENT,  
WASHINGTON, Aug. 14, 1899.

SIR:—

I enclose herewith copies of two telegraphic dispatches received last evening from the Governor General of Porto Rico, by which it appears that the devastation wrought by the recent hurricane in that island is even greater than was at first supposed. It is evident that a great multitude of people rendered utterly destitute by this awful calamity must be fed and cared for during a considerable period until they can have the opportunity to produce food for themselves. Enormous quantities of supplies of the kinds indicated by the Governor General must be procured.

The magnitude of the work to be accomplished leads this department to supplement the appeal already made to the mayors of the principal cities of the country, by a more general appeal, and I beg you to ask the people of your State to contribute generously to the relief of the people of Porto Rico.

Swift steamers have been provided to leave the port of New York to carry the supplies directly to Porto Rico as rapidly as they can be collected.

Contributions should be either in supplies of the character indicated or in money in order that the supplies can be purchased. The supplies should be sent to Col. F. B. Jones, Army Building, foot of Whitehall street, New York City, in packages plainly marked "Porto Rico Relief," and he should be consulted as to the time of shipment. Money should be sent to the National

Bank of North America, New York City, which has been designated as a depository for the Relief Fund.

Very respectfully,

ELIHU ROOT,  
Secretary of War.

Mr. Root forwards to me copies of cablegrams received from Governor General Davis, of Porto Rico, in which are detailed the sad state of devastation now prevailing in our new possessions. These have been published in the newspapers, and it is needless to reiterate the sorrowful details of woe, want, suffering and death. A late cablegram from Porto Rico informs us that already more than two thousand people have died in that stricken country as a result of the terrible hurricane. Thousands are homeless, other thousands injured and need medical aid, and almost the whole population will die of starvation if help does not reach them soon. Their crops were destroyed and their horses and other domestic animals drowned, and the fruit bearing trees upon which many depended largely for food, were uprooted. Not less than twenty-five hundred tons of food are needed at once. Such food as beans, rice and a cheap grade of cod fish, and such goods as cotton clothing, coarse cotton cloth, and needles and thread, are urgently needed.

Money is wanted to help build and repair houses to shelter the people. All kinds of rough lumber, and other building materials would be welcomed. For many months, until new crops can be grown, the people must be fed, or they will starve.

Such a sad situation appeals to the commonest instincts of humanity. But these people have a double claim upon our generosity. In the late war they welcomed our soldiers and strewn their pathway with flowess. They were joyous to become a part of the great Republic of which we are proud citizens. Hence the appeal is to our patriotism as well as to our common humanity and gratitude.

I earnestly recommend that the mayor of every incorporated city and town in the State, will at once call a public meeting, and that there be appointed a committee to collect and forward all donations; and that in the unincorporated towns and villages and other neighborhoods, like meetings be held and similar action be had.

Whatever is done quickly is twice done well, for the situation is urgent and the appeal is from the dying. Let us all give as

God has prospered us, with thanksgiving that He has spared our own beloved country such an awful affliction.

G. W. ATKINSON,  
Governor of W. Va.

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## WEST VIRGINIA RESOURCES.

CHARLESTON, W. VA., Aug. 18, 1899.

N. Y. WORLD,  
New York City.

In reply to your request for a brief general statement of business conditions now prevailing in West Virginia, I have great pleasure in saying that this State is enjoying the greatest prosperity known in its history. West Virginia is the richest State in the Union in natural resources. The development thereof is reaching wonderful proportions. There is no boom about it; it is simply natural and legitimate growth promoted by wise laws and good administration. There are thirty-six railroads projected, eight of which are under construction. The trouble is to find men to build them. West Virginia is the first State in the Union for oil and lumber, second for coke, and third for coal.

In a short time we hope to pass Pennsylvania in the manufacture of coke, as her coke area is limited, while ours is almost unlimited. Eighteen months ago we passed Ohio in the production of coal, and this year we will go into second place, ahead of Illinois.

Our oil production last year was 20,000,000 barrels of white sand oil, and oil is being found in nearly all the counties; we turned out 2,600,000 tons of coke and 16,000,000 tons of coal in the same period. Mines are being opened all over the State. Our lumber and timber industry was never so prosperous. We have 9,000,000 acres of Virginia forests; and it is difficult to estimate what the output will be. The prices are the highest and the demand the greatest ever known. Farmers were never so prosperous, and everything they can raise is marketable at good prices. The price and demand for live stock, especially sheep and cattle, are very good.

Our production of poultry and eggs is enormous, and prices



and demand therefor were never better. Our glass, iron, and steel manufacturing establishments are enjoying great prosperity. The demand for coal is good, and many new mines are being opened. We produce the best coal in the world. The wages of miners have been increased. The conditions compared with one year ago, are greatly improved. Money is much more plentiful. Interest rates are from 5 to 6 per cent.

The State Labor Commissioner wrote me last week: "There is no labor trouble in West Virginia at present. Wages are being advanced everywhere and men who want work have it. I have recently returned from the upper Pan Handle where labor conditions are in excellent shape. Have been asked to supply labor on many occasions. For instance a concern, working four hundred and seventy-five men, asked me to furnish fifty men for steady employment and good wages."

G. W. ATKINSON,  
Governor.

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## OUR SOLDIERS.

*Remarks of Governor G. W. Atkinson, of West Virginia, Delivered at Pittsburg, Pa., upon the Return of the 10th Regiment from the Philippines.*

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*August 28, 1899.*

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MR. CHAIRMAN, SOLDIERS OF THE TENTH REGIMENT OF PENNSYLVANIA VOLUNTEERS, FELLOW CITIZENS OF THE STATE OF PENNSYLVANIA:

During the late war with Spain, and immediately after our American soldiers had engaged the Spaniards in a fierce and bitter contest yonder on the Island of Cuba, Blanco telegraphed Sagasta, the minister of war at Madrid, "Our forces met the Americans today and we defeated them; but they persisted in fighting and we retired from the field." At Santiago our troops fought their way up the slopes under fire of shot and shell, across ditches and over barbed-wire fences until they

reached the heights, stormed the fort and drove the Spaniards from their entrenchments, reared aloft the stars and stripes and securely planted our National escutcheon beneath the shadow of Moro castle, like Ethan Allen at fort Tyconderoga, "in the name of God and the Continental Congress." Our forces numbered but 16,000—theirs, 24,000. Therefore I insist today that that great battle fixed the ratio of American valor at 16 to 24.

This great regiment—the historic and immortal Tenth Pennsylvanian—has not been to Cuba with Shafter and Wheeler and Lee, but it has been in the Philippine islands with Otis and McArthur and Lawton, bearing aloft our national ensign which stands for freedom wherever it floats. You soldiers of the Tenth have done your part in rearing that starry emblem so high in air that its folds today catch the first rays of the rising and the last rays of the setting sun. On the blood-stained battlefields of Luzon, under the stars and stripes, you fought heroically and well, and you there wreathed about yourselves garlands of glory that time cannot efface. Many of your comrades poured out their life-blood freely that the honor and integrity of their native land might be respected and maintained. Other thousands are now being sent across the seas to take the places of those that have come home, to carry triumphantly forward the banner of human liberty and Christian civilization on both land and sea.

The world is moving forward, and you, as liberty loving soldiers, have done much to help it on.

You will not go into history, my friends, as "the bloody tenth," but you have gone into history as one of the bravest and the best regiments of volunteer soldiers that ever leveled a musket or unsheathed a sword. The "citizen soldier" is the "minute-man" of progress and the harbinger of mankind.

President McKinley, a year or so ago, standing by the tomb of the immortal Grant, said, "The deeds of a true patriot can never die." Standing here to-day in his presence as the Chief Magistrate of the greatest Nation beneath the stars, I reiterate that statement, and say to you, soldiers of the Tenth Pennsylvania volunteers, that the services you rendered your country and the cause of universal liberty, in the far away Philippines, will never be forgotten by a grateful and loving people like our own.

The President has honored you by his presence here to-day as you return once more to your homes and your firesides, and you have honored him and the American people by the services you have rendered at the front and in the brunt of battle.

Napoleon, while marching his victorious army along the valley of the Nile, and within full view of the Pyramids of Egypt, said to his men, in stentorian voice: "Soldiers of France, from the summits of those pyramids the dust of forty centuries is looking down upon you." So I say to you, my countrymen—soldiers of the 10th Pennsylvania volunteers—the eyes of seventy-five million American people are looking down upon you to-day; and with loud acclaim they hail you, *Well done, good and faithful servants and soldiers, enter into the joy of your homes in your own native Pennsylvania land.* Hail, all hail! my countrymen! May you in the years to come wear the laurels you have so proudly won, and may your days be long in the land of the great progressive, patriotic Keystone State of the great Republic which is to-day the wonder of the world and the admiration of men in this and all lands beneath the stars. (Prolonged applause.)

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## BOOKER T. WASHINGTON.

*Governor Atkinson's Remarks in Introducing Booker T. Washington at the Opera House, Charleston, West Virginia.*

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*August 31, 1899.*

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MY FRIENDS AND FELLOW CITIZENS:—

Embassador Joseph Choate in introducing Mr. Booker T. Washington at Exeter Hall, London, only a few weeks ago, said that he asked Mr. Washington how he came by the name of "Washington"? Whereupon Mr. Washington replied: "The freeing of the slaves in my country gave me the right to choose a name for myself, and I therefore selected the best one in sight." And Mr. Choate added, "this talented young man has



maintained with great dignity that illustrious name in all the walks of life."

Mr. Washington has perhaps done more than any other colored man now living for the advancement of the educational interests of his race in this country. His great school at Tuskegee is a massive monument to his ability, education, skill and enterprise. Its growth borders on the marvelous. Only a man of extraordinary executive ability could, in so short a period of time, achieve such unprecedented and, I may say, marvelous results. I commend Professor Washington for what he has done and is now doing for his people. He has the correct conception of what is termed "*The Negro Problem in the South.*" All well informed persons know that the welfare of the negro in the South is so dependent upon that of the white race, that those who are making it their special mission to minister to the wants of the colored people have learned, as Professor Washington himself has learned, that the negro can rise in knowledge and prosperity only as the white race rises still higher. Both races must move together, hand in hand, in Christian Education and intellectual growth and development. One race in our country is absolutely dependent upon the other. The way out of existing weaknesses and embarrassments lies in pushing the public schools, the colleges, the universities and the Gospel of the Christ.

The German poet Goethe aptly wrote:—

"He only learns his freedom and existence  
Who daily conquers them anew."

My friend, Mr. Washington, has no doubt found this to be true; and he has also found that it takes a constant struggle, a ceaseless battle to bring success from inhospitable surroundings, because such efforts, of necessity, are the price of all great achievements. The man who has not fought his own way upward, and does not bear the scars of desperate conflict, does not know the highest meaning of success. There is scarcely a great man in history who has not been compelled to fight his way to eminence, inch by inch, against opposition, and often through ridicule and the abuse of friends as well as enemies. This young man Washington has been plowed and harrowed full enough, but with it all he has achieved success both as an educator and a leader of his fellow men.

It has been my pleasure to know Professor Washington from his boyhood. Being a native of this—Kanawha—County, where both of us were reared, I have watched his career with unabated interest. He has steadily grown in mental and moral stature, until he stands to-night easily the foremost man of his race on this Continent. This, my friends, is saying a good deal, but it is nevertheless true. I take great pleasure therefore in introducing him to this splendid audience as the speaker of the evening.—Ladies and gentlemen, Mr. Booker T. Washington, formerly of West Virginia, but now of the United States. (Loud applause.)

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## OUR STATE.

*West Virginia as it Now is and is Soon to be, by Governor G. W. Atkinson, A. B., LL. B.*

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EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,

CHARLESTON, W. VA., September 8th, 1899.

EDITOR "MANUFACTURER'S RECORD".

Baltimore, Maryland.

DEAR SIR:

I take great pleasure in complying with your courteous request to furnish your readers an article upon the material resources of my State, and its outlook for the future. It is only within the past few years that the people outside our borders have sought to acquaint themselves with what we have and are in the "Mountain State" of the Republic. Fortunately, however, for them and us, of late, they have begun to turn their eyes upon us.

It is now, I think, generally conceded that West Virginia is really a great State, and I very much doubt if any other State in the Union is keeping apace with us in growth and development. Coal and oil and gas and timber are our principal sources of wealth. Out of 25,000 square miles of area, 20,000 are

coal and oil and gas miles; and we have yet remaining between eight and nine million acres of virgin forests. So you see, our natural resources are practically inexhaustible.

We have in many sections of the State 89 feet of coal measures above water level, and in boring for oil we find many valuable coal seams deep down in mother earth. So that when we consume our drift veins of coal, we can engage our time and energies for a few thousand years shafting for the "dusky diamonds" that lie beneath the level. The opportunity therefore for money investments in West Virginia coal acres is almost without limit, and it can be done without risk to the investor.

Outside of West Virginia, coking coal is getting scarce, while with us it is only in its infancy; and this is why the coal men are coming among us and are rapidly buying up our coal fields; and this is one of the reasons also why our State is so rapidly coming into public notice and public favor. We are now next to Pennsylvania in coke production. We are third among the States in coal output, and will be second within a year. We are first in oil—having shipped in the last twelve months over twenty million barrels, and we believe that it will yet be found in every portion of the State; and as to gas, it is absolutely without limit. Timber—big timber—grows on every hillside, and the buz of the mill-saw lulls our people to sleep and awakes them from their slumbers at the dawning of the morn. So, on the whole, we are prospering. Business of all kinds is good, and there seems to be plenty of money in the land.

Viewed from an agricultural and horticultural standpoint, the State is making rapid progress. Stimulated and encouraged by the earnest and well directed efforts of an aggressive non-partisan State Board of Agriculture, which is ably seconded and materially aided by the Patrons of Husbandry, and other kindred organizations, great improvement is readily seen by those who are familiar with past conditions, and who observe things as they exist to-day. As the husbandman gradually adopts a more intensive system, and cultivates well the limited number of acres he owns upon which a paying crop is practically certain, conditions are changing for the better, and in time, if this system is adhered to, the cultivated portions of our State will be greatly advanced, and those who own and cultivate them will be among the best, happiest and most progressive people within our borders. Such families will enjoy all the opportuni-



ties for mental improvement and culture which are necessary to their well being and happiness.

There are many reasons why agricultural pursuits pay as well in this State as in many others, which are generally considered much more desirable, as homes for those who propose to follow this first and greatest of all industries. Our nearness to the large markets of consumption, our very few crop failures, and the great diversity of products we are able to grow successfully, are a few of the many reasons we could give why agriculture, properly followed up, will prove as profitable in this State as in any other State in the Union. We should only cultivate such lands as are suited to that purpose, and this is an important lesson which we are slowly but surely learning.

We have other uses to which we can put our hill lands, and which oft-times prove just as satisfactory and remunerative to our people.

This State is pre-eminently a grazing and fruitgrowing State, and our up-lands and mountain tops, which are in no sense adapted to the growing of the cereal crops, are the ideal fruit farms; and when well set in the famous blue grass which is indigenous to a large area of our surface, make a veritable paradise for sheep and cattle, especially for the former. There are but few acres in the State that may not be profitably used for grazing sheep and cattle, and for the production of as fine colored and fine flavored fruit as can be grown anywhere in the world.

There are now many thousands of young fruit trees coming into bearing, and in the very near future the number of orchards of commercial importance will be greatly increased, and the revenue to the owners and the State will be very considerable. The proper location, the proper soil, the most profitable varieties, the time and mode of planting, as well as the care of the trees and the handling of the fruit at maturity, are all becoming to be better understood, which will greatly stimulate the industry, and make it both more pleasant and profitable to the growers, and more satisfactory to the buyers and consumers. The improvements which have been made in orcharding within the past few years have been both marvelous and gratifying, and this promises to be one of our large sources of income in the not distant future.

The improvement in our domestic animals has also been very marked within the past few years, and the importance and de-

sirability of procuring pure bred sires is becoming general throughout the State. With this improvement in breeding and feeding will come increased profits, and this in turn will increase the number of domestic animals, and the income of our people from this source will soon be more than doubled, which will cause the few remaining mortgages upon the farms of the State to disappear, I trust forever.

We have made much progress along these lines, but we still need fewer number of acres more thoroughly and scientifically tilled; a much greater acreage of blue grass, and a larger number of sheep and cattle of a higher grade to fatten and grow into money upon our farms. We need hundreds and thousands more of carefully selected fruit trees, by men who have been carefully educated and trained in such work, to cover our hill-sides, and make beautiful and profitable the now many waste places of our mountainous and yet wealth-laden State.

These desirable necessities are coming, and coming rapidly, and with proper encouragement and protection, the husbandman, together with those engaged in the development of our many other sources of wealth, will be ushered into the Twentieth Century with brighter hopes and higher aims and ambitions than they have ever known before.

Education and development will go hand in hand, and a higher, happier and better citizenship will be the inevitable result. We welcome the twentieth century, with its star of hope for our people, and trust that they will make the proper use of every opportunity, and meet heroically and bravely every obligation of American Citizenship.

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## ADDRESS

*of Governor G. W. Atkinson, LL. D., Ph. D., of West Virginia,  
at the Civic Federation, held in the City of Chicago.*

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*September 13, 1899.*

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MR. PRESIDENT AND GENTLEMEN OF THE CONVENTION:—

This gathering, as I understand it, is to consider the relations of our citizens to one another as citizens, and to consider

also the best methods to be used to protect the masses from the encroachments of combines and trusts; for it seems that this is a period favorable to the organization of such combines all over the civilized world.

I believe in progression. In this respect, I am an evolutionist. I believe that the world ought to grow, and that men ought to grow with it. Some sorts of combines are, I think, economic necessities which grow out of our complex civilization as a Nation. The great manufacturing establishments of the world, covering all branches of industry, had very small beginnings; and we, in a large measure, owe the progress we have made to men of means who combined or united into what we call "Corporations" to make this advancement possible. But there is a vast difference between a Corporation and a Trust. It seems to me that every citizen, who possesses any sort of common sense, will favor corporations, because individual citizens, as a rule, cannot in and of themselves alone furnish sufficient capital to develop the resources of any of the States of our Republic. It requires vast sums of money to handle great undertakings. One man alone cannot supply the necessary capital to build up great industries, which have for their object the development of a State or a Nation; but several men of means, by combining, can raise the necessary amount of capital to accomplish the desired purpose. This necessity brought corporations into existence. What one man cannot do, for lack of means, several men can accomplish by combining the capital which each of them can command. In this way corporations are formed. In this manner railroads are constructed, mines are opened, mills and factories are built, industries are established, men are employed, and the natural resources of a country are developed, which necessarily employ labor and thus bring wealth into a country. Hence I say that every citizen of a country, who possesses ordinary common sense, should be favorable to corporations. Nevertheless we have in our midst thousands and tens of thousands of our people who seem to hate them and fight them on every hand, notwithstanding the fact that they secure from such concerns reasonable compensation for their toil, and by means of which they obtain the necessary means with which they support their families and those dependent upon them. With this class of people, my fellow citizens, I have no sort of sympathy. I assert here to-day that a



corporation properly conducted, is entitled to as much sympathy, support and respect as an individual, because a corporation, in law, *is an individual*. I wish therefore to be written down, my countrymen, as a friend and backer of corporations, because no State can be developed without them, and there can be no growth and development, if they are inhibited by law, or are not properly supported by the people. Without corporations, to-day we would be without railroads, coal and coke operations, silver and gold producers, banks and other acknowledged necessities for the public weal. Therefore, Mr. Chairman, when I hear men in politics and elsewhere, whining the demagogue cry, "down with corporations", I am ready to join the crowd of enterprising people who will cry from the hustings and the house tops, *down with that class of malcontents and demagogues!* I am not an optimist *per se*, nor am I a pessimist. I have no sympathy for any one who puts in his time whining against capital. We unfortunately have, however, too many of this class of croakers in our midst. What we need is more capital in legitimate business undertakings. We must have men everywhere who will invest their money in building up and opening up the industries of all of our States. We have in West Virginia more coal and coke and oil and gas and timber than the United States can consume in hundreds of years. What we now need most is capital to help us on in our work of development. We are ready and willing to welcome to our domain men of enterprise and men of means from all sections of the Union, and from abroad as well, to come among us and aid us in developing the resources which a wise and beneficent Providence has bestowed upon us, and which are open to all comers.

West Virginia, my friends, is the first oil and gas and timber State in the Union. She is second in coke, and third in coal. She has more coal area than any other State, and it is only a matter of limited time for her to be first in coal and coke production, as she is now first in oil and gas and timber, because the coal and coke business is, after all, only a question of the survival of the fittest. With more veins of coal than any other State, and all or mostly all of a better quality than any of our competitors, especially for gas and steam and heat and coke, we are bound to hold our own, and in the end come out on top of any and all competitors. Hence I again say, Mr. President, that West Virginians generally are friendly to corporations, and

we will and do gladly welcome men of means to come among us, and thus help them and us not only to "keep the wolf from the door," but at the same time aid us to lay up a surplus for "rainy days," which will sooner or later come to one and all. We welcome therefore corporations and capital, because they help us as *West Virginians* to build for both the present and the future.

Now, I take it, Mr. President, that all present understand how I feel towards capitalists and towards corporations which always represent capital and capitalists. The next point to which I desire briefly to allude is the *Labor problem*. I am now and always have been a staunch friend of the toiling masses. I stand for the working man, because he alone produces wealth. He takes the iron ore, the coal, the oil, the gas, the precious metals, the lead, the zinc, etc., out of the bowels of the earth, and, by his skill, transforms them from the natural to the finished product. In this way he produces wealth. In the same manner he brings out of mother earth the necessary articles for the sustenance of mankind. He alone therefore is a wealth producer. Why, then, should he not have our honest, earnest support? I say, unhesitatingly, that he has my best wishes.

Labor and capital are interdependent. One cannot get on without the help of the other. The laboring men have the same right to organize for their advancement and protection as have the capitalists. The same privilege must be extended to one class as to the other. So long as the laboring man does his duty, and keeps within the limits of the law, he will have my sympathy and support. But I have never yet favored a strike or a lock-out so long as it was possible to prevent it by just and friendly arbitration; and I have never yet known, and I say it boldly, a strike or a lock-out, in all my experience and observation, that did not result in injury to both labor and capital. Therefore, Mr. Chairman, I favor arbitration to settle all disputed problems between capital on the one hand and labor on the other.

While I stand here as a representative of the common people, and insist that they should be properly treated, yet I confess that there are other Trusts in this country than "money trusts". Laboring men have their organizations, as I have already stated they ought to have, and are entitled to have. But somehow however a portion of these organizations have

not properly taken into account the strife and loss of time to themselves and their employers occasioned by strikes which they have seen fit to bring upon themselves. There are therefore not only *capital trusts*, but there are sometimes *labor trusts* also. I wish to place myself on record against both, and especially so when the demands of either or both are not in accord with the well established rules of political economy and common sense and common honesty between man and man, whether rich or poor, black or white. Laboring men, have no more right to combine for the purpose of sustaining that which is unjust and unreasonable than capitalists. Hence I wish to declare here and now that arbitration alone can properly adjust controversies of this sort, and the man who opposes this kind of adjustment is wholly out of joint with the spirit of the times in which he lives. Capital and labor should deal fairly with each other, and if they cannot at all times agree, let the controversy be arbitrated by a just, unbiased and honorable tribunal. No conservative, honest man, in my judgment, can or will oppose such adjustment.

This brings me, Mr. President and gentlemen, to a brief consideration of "Trusts", which is the main question before this Federation. In all of my private and public acts in the past, my "musket" has always been pointed against Trusts, and if I know myself to-day, it is still pointing the same way. It seems that our country has, within the past few years, gone *trust crazy*. I cannot understand why, but it appears to be a fact. Nevertheless this *lunacy fad*, if I may call it such, is not confined to this country alone. It is just now reaping a harvest everywhere and in all lands. Nor is it confined to any one political party. I find about as many Democrats in trusts in the United States as Republicans, and I find at least two of the mammoth trusts of this country are, in a sense, Democratic Trusts. Therefore, I conclude, Mr. Chairman, that we cannot choke them out by drawing political lines upon them. They have grown up as the result of existing conditions, and they cannot be stamped out by any or all political parties simply *resolving* against them. To sweep the trust issue into politics, and resolve one way or the other, as is the custom now-a-days in political conventions so to do, it seems to me, is "wasting fragrance on the desert air." We must come nearer home for a remedy than that. We must hit at its tap-root by National



and State legislation by making it a penal offense against good government for men of great wealth to combine for the sole purpose of stifling and choking middle men and small dealers, as trusts have generally done in the past.

Or better still, if the trusts would take their employees into their combines and their confidence, and will, after paying themselves a reasonable dividend on the *actual amount of capital stock invested*, and then agree to distribute a reasonable share of the profits among the skilled artisans whom they employ as a per cent. or profit upon their wages, the trusts would then be placed upon an honest, popular and reasonable foundation, and no one could complain or justly oppose them. I can see no reason why such an experiment might not be made by employers, nor can I see why it would not succeed. To do this would bring about harmony to a large degree between labor and capital, and would measurably—though not entirely—take the fangs out of the trust and the combine. This is one of the ways, and it seems to me to be the logical way, to settle this ever-existing controversy, and settle it right, because it would then be a just, and, I may say, enlightened co-operation, and you all know that co-operation is the fundamental principle of a trust. It is, in short, *the very heart of it*. The trouble, however, with the most of the trusts, as they are now conducted, is that the “*co-operation*” is all one-sided—all in favor of the stockholders, while the skilled laborers and the consumers are wholly ignored. This seems to be the fundamental principle—the foundation, so to speak, on which the whole Trust movement rests. Why, then, cannot its scope be widened so as to take in or embrace all the classes whose interests are involved? So long as the Trust now stands, and so long as it is thus conducted, that long it will be antagonized by the masses, and it therefore cannot be enduring, nor can it result as a permanent, profitable investment for the stockholders, nor can it in any way benefit the mechanics or the people in general.

Mr. President, I do not wish to be understood as opposing modern methods of progress. I believe in conserving in every possible manner the waste of time and energy of the great mass of our people. The day of wooden plows and stage coaches and horseback mails have gone by forever. To keep abreast of the times in which we live, we must use all modern discoveries and appliances. We must of necessity “keep in the push” or other-

wise perish. All wise people will strive to reduce every possible waste of energy. The blacksmith-shop and the wooden plow were good enough in their day. They answered the purpose then, but they are out of date now. Old methods have been steadily discarded, and economical appliances operated by steam and electricity have been substituted therefor. The same is true in almost every business avocation peculiar to our people. The Trust seems, on its face, to be a step forward in the ever-shifting drama of growth and progress. It claims as its main purpose to save waste in production and distribution. Every student of political economy will admit, in a measure, the force of this particular claim, because the greatest enemy to human progress is *waste*. While it may be true that a number of factories in a particular industry, which have been competing with one another in a particular line of production, agree to unite for a common purpose, consenting to not fight one another, and purposing to furnish a particular article of manufacture to the consumer at a specific price, of itself is not necessarily wrong. Indeed, it appears to be right on its face; but it may be wrong—forever wrong,—and usually is wrong, as I see it, for two especial reasons: First, This combine can and will (if it is looking out for its own interests alone) increase the price of its product to the consumer, and at the same time cut the wages of its employees; and, second, every small manufacturer engaged in that particular industry will either have to quit business or join “the combine”. But the *combine* will doubtless say in reply that the small manufacturer can himself join the Trust, or keep on as he is then doing, if he likes. How, I ask, can he continue his business successfully, if all of his competitors in the same line of production have combined against him? They can, and will, for the purpose of “freezing him out”, cut prices until he has “to squeal and throw up the sponge”, and then the combine has its own way and can fix its own prices, *and it usually does so*, and all of you who hear me know it and know it well. In cases of this sort, the small dealer succumbs and the “combine” fixes its own prices and the people are compelled to submit.

Nevertheless, Mr. President and gentlemen, I confess I am one of the people of this country who is not hysterical over this Trust controversy. I am inclined to the opinion that it can and will be regulated by wise and proper legislation, and by

public sentiment, which in the end, always settles matters of this sort. All political economists agree that the prevention of waste (unnecessary waste) by all nations is the secret of their growth and success. This proposition is unquestionably true, and I will therefore not undertake to controvert it. A wise man will save every cent, every dime, every lump of coal, every particle of manure, everything that can be utilized to better his condition and help him on in life. But it seems to me that no intelligent man will favor any measure which will place himself at the mercy of a few of his fellow citizens, who will have it in their power to say what he shall do, or what he shall pay for that which necessity requires him to purchase.

I am aware of the fact, Mr. President, that the backers of Trusts set up three distinct claims or arguments in their defense, viz: 1st, That they pay the highest rates of wages to their employees; 2nd. That they furnish the best articles to the consumer; and, 3rd. That they furnish them lower or cheaper than they can otherwise be produced. While I admit that there is something in these claims, yet they are true only in a restricted sense. The first of these claims is, I think, absolutely true. Trusts pay big wages because they employ none but high grade men and women which they can afford to do. The second proposition is perhaps true in most cases, but by no means in all. The third claim is only true in a few instances. If I had the time to-day I could definitely mention them to this Federation. But in the generality of cases, prices to consumers increase instead of diminish where Trusts are enforced. Therefore, the few, and not the many, are the direct beneficiaries of these Trust Combines. Consequently, my countrymen, when one pauses and considers carefully all the facts involved; when he thoughtfully weighs both sides of the issue before him; when he seriously reflects, as it is the duty of every good citizen so to do; when he sees the vast multitude of his fellow countrymen, who have fitted themselves by education and experience as "middle men" in the various avocations of life, necessarily thrown out of employment because of Trusts; and when he goes farther and thinks of the thousands and tens of thousands of his fellow countrymen of limited means, yet at the same time industrious, sober and enterprising; who cannot, because of their limited resources, cope with the Trusts and Combines, and are necessarily forced to quit business, then the enormity of the wrong (not to



say crime) of choking them out of an honest effort to support themselves and families, can be fully understood and fully appreciated.

If the advocates of and participants in the Trusts could satisfy the winds of the masses upon the following propositions, they would then have but a limited opposition in the years to come, viz.: 1st, Will you and can you, in all cases, as you claim, agree to furnish a better and cheaper article to consumers of all the necessities of life covered by your Trusts and Combines; 2nd, What do you propose to do with the tens of thousands of *middle men* now employed, who of necessity must lose their present positions; and, 3rd, What will become of the "small dealers" scattered over our country from Maine to Florida, and from the surges of the Atlantic to the sunset sea whose waves make music in the golden sands of California? What are you going to do with this large class of our fellow citizens who are now prosperous and happy in their present occupations? These are momentous problems and involve momentous results.

I may be wrong, Mr. President, in my conclusions; but it seems to me, as an unprejudiced, unbiased American citizen, whose only purpose is to do what he can to advance the interests of the great majority of all our people, that if the Trust idea is to be carried out in this country, there will be no use for "middle men" among us; and the *small dealers and small manufacturers and small operators* in any and all lines of business, who are now earning honest livings and supports for themselves and those dependent upon them, will be things absolutely of the past. Like Othello, their "occupations will be gone". And what of the other, and the greatest of all the considerations before us as non-partisan American citizens, viz.: Will the Trusts, can the Trusts, dare the Trusts here agree to furnish to the great living, helpless, and in many instances hapless mass of our people, a better and a cheaper article which all of them must of necessity use, than they are now required to pay for the same? If the Trust can do this, I will call off my opposition, feeble as it is, and will join them and bid them God speed in their work. Otherwise, I am against them, and desire that they will here and now class me as an enemy.

It is not my purpose or desire, my fellow citizens, to block any avenue to the progress and development of my country; but it

is my purpose and desire to do anything and everything that I can to prevent capital from overslaughing labor, and to do my utmost at all times and under all circumstances, to aid the working man to earn an honest livelihood for himself and those dependent upon him in the ever existing scuffle between man and man to live and to let live which has been going on from Adam down to McKinley. (Prolonged applause.)

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## REMARKS

*Of Governor G. W. Atkinson, at Morgantown, West Virginia,  
In Presenting a sword to Capt. F. E. Chadwick, of  
the United States Navy.*

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*October 10, 1899.*

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(From the Morgantown New Dominion.)

CAPTAIN CHADWICK, MY FRIENDS AND FELLOW CITIZENS:—

In the American Republic, heroism and romance go hand in hand. Heroism is like the ancient temple which defies time and storm, while romance is like ivy which clings about the temple and tenderly conceals the ravages of the years as they ceaselessly come and go. Our Republic, young as it is, has produced and is still producing a galaxy of heroes whose names will ever be the synonyms of chivalry and daring. The years of 1898 and '99 have been epoch years in American History and American valor. Our armies on land and sea, in those two years, have won unfading and immortal renown. Their victories rank with those at Salamis and Trafalgar, and the records they have made will be as enduring as the stars.

Perfect valor, my friends, consists in doing without witness all one should be capable of doing before the whole world. A crime against the civilized world and posterity will grow in magnitude as time rolls on, and will forever and to the remotest times, blast the name and the fame of him who committed it. But the

man who does a noble and a patriotic act,—an act that will elevate and ennoble his fellow men, will be cherished by the people that are good until the centuries cease to roll.

All along the centuries, my fellow citizens, the sword has been regarded as an emblem of authority and a symbol of power. In the sacred scriptures we read of “the sword of the Lord and of Gideon,” and how with it that great chieftain and defender of the Faith used it with mighty effect upon the enemies of the living God. Shakespeare, in immortal verse, describes “the sword of Damocles” suspended forever above the heads of those that persist in waywardness and wrongdoing. The Egyptians, the Persians, the Babylonians, the Greeks and the Romans, in the centuries ago, placed the sword in the hands of their chieftians, and with it was conveyed the authority to command, pursue and conquer and rule. The mighty sword of England flashes in the sunlight all around the world today. Our own American “Damascus blade” unsheathed in the cause of truth, liberty and higher civilization, is lifting Cuba and Puerto Rico to more exalted conceptions of life and duty; and before the nineteenth century passes into history, it will, if I mistake not, bring to the inhabitants of the Philippine Islands better government, broader ideas of civilization, greater liberty, and eternal gratitude to the American sailor and soldier, although the formerly oppressed Filipinos do not seemingly understand it now. War is right, forever right, when waged for liberty, righteousness and truth; but war is wrong, forever wrong, when waged simply for conquest and extension.

We have assembled here today, my countrymen, to honor one of our citizens who as a sailor and soldier has greatly honored us. Some of our enterprising public-spirited West Virginians have brought the fact conspicuously before the people of our State, that Captain F. E. Chadwick, a native of this thriving city, is entitled to more than passing mention, because he commanded bravely and conspicuously the flag ship “New York,” when Cervera’s fleet went down in the great naval battle of Santiago. Brave as only Virginians can be, Captain Chadwick, with the stars and stripes floating from the masthead of his great American battle-ship, amid shot and shell, that historic day in July, 1898, with his other co-commanders in that immortal contest, won more than Lord Nelson won at Trafalgar; they won more than a “peerage and a grave in Westminster



Abbey," they won the hearts and admiration of all the people of "the great republic." They won indeed, our admiration and our gratitude forever.

I am glad to know, sir, that there are no spots upon the horizon of your long and eventful military career. It is today and has ever been as spotless as a maiden's and as unsullied as a ray of light. The brave, clean, manly sailors and soldiers are the men the people reverence and love, and they will never cease to honor such heroes until time shall cease to be.

And now, my dear captain, as a slight expression of the high appreciation in which you are held by your neighbors and your friends here at Morgantown—the place of your birth—indeed, I may say by the people in all parts of West Virginia, I am directed by them to hand you this sword. It is made of high grade material, and in this respect it is emblematic of the stern, true stuff out of which you yourself were moulded. Take it, my friend and countryman, and unsheathe it ever in the cause of right and liberty; and may God's best blessings forever rest upon you is the sincere wish of your thousands of friends who are assembled here today. (Prolonged cheering.)

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## WEST VIRGINIA DEVELOPMENTS.

*By Governor G. W. Atkinson, A. M., of Charleston, West Virginia.*

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*October 10, 1899.*

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Editor Manufacturer's Record,  
Baltimore, Maryland,

DEAR SIR:—

As a citizen of West Virginia, I am more than gratified over its marvelous development. We are easily the first of all the States in oil and gas and timber, and we are second in coke and third in coal production. I am daily receiving inquiries as to our actual status in regard to these great industries. In order to be exact in my statements on these subjects, I have conferred with

Chief Mine inspector J. W. Paul, and with his assistance I can speak authoritatively upon our great West Virginia industries.

### COAL AND COKE.

The past year marks the State with having been the most active in the production of coal and coke. No previous year in the history of coal mining in the State has shown greater activity than the past. Labor troubles were practically *nil*. The number of days worked exceeded any previous year, and the production of coal is 1,404,752 tons in excess of the largest previous production of any one year. The tonnage for 1898 was 16,010,248, and for the year ending June 30th, 1899, was 17,415,000 long tons. At the present rate of progression, coupled with the exploitations now in progress, it will be less than five years until the tonnage will reach over 20,000,000, and it is not beyond a conservative prophecy to predict that West Virginia will in two years be the second coal-producing State in the Union.

In the matter of coke manufacture, this State maintains its position as second only to the State of Pennsylvania. During the past year, there were manufactured 1,900,000 tons of coke. Many new coke ovens are under way of construction, and it would be a difficult matter to state what position the State will occupy as a coke producer five years hence.

### OIL.

The first well drilled for oil in West Virginia was in 1859-60. Since that time there have been hundreds of wells drilled, varying from a few hundred to three thousand feet deep. From these there has been produced to date about 80,000,000 barrels. The banner year of oil production was during the past year, when the quantity produced amounted to 16,000,000 to 17,000,000 barrels of white-sand oil. During the early developments, the facilities for drilling were not so well suited for their purpose as they now are, and the progress was less rapid. At present the experience of 35 years enables drilling to be carried on in a very aggressive manner, and it is a question if our output of oil grows much larger, unless some new large pool be discovered, or some of the present pools become extended in their development in a profitable way. This statement is based upon the idea that the Standard Oil Company, which controls oil de-

velopments, will hold us down to their requirements, as they only allow developments to be made as their interests demand.

In 1891 the State of Pennsylvania produced over thirteen times as much oil as did West Virginia. In 1898, West Virginia produced 13,603,000 and Pennsylvania 15,232,000 barrels of white-sand oil.

Since 1891 the production in Pennsylvania has *decreased* over fifty per cent., and in the same time West Virginia has *increased* over five hundred per cent. This State bids fair to lead all the States hereafter in point of oil production. Indeed, I think there is no question as to the correctness of this statement.

At present there is great activity in the eastern extension of what is called the "Cairo field" in West Virginia, which may be looked upon as a field with a promising future. Practically all the oil produced in the State is known as the "white sand" type having a paraffine base, which is the best of all natural oils.

As productions decrease in adjoining States, the natural course of oil seeking capital will be to extend the present boundaries of the oil pools of this State, but with what results the drill only will reveal, because oil has never been definitely located, except by actual test.

### GAS.

The importance of gas is not the least of our natural resources. The State of West Virginia produces a greater volume of natural gas than any other State. Fully 500,000,000 cubic feet is a small part of the daily flow of gas from the West Virginia wells.

A large portion of the natural gas consumed in Pittsburg comes from West Virginia wells. There is little probability of the gas supply exceeding the present production, since it is not considered to be inexhaustible. Ours will be the fate of other States in this respect, and a few decades doubtless will show the "Gas period" to have seen its best days at the closing of the nineteenth century. At least this is believed by our best informed geologists.

At present, there are only a few towns and cities west of the central part of the State which do not utilize gas as a source of heat—both for manufacturing and domestic purposes. This State is the first to have utilized gas for manufacturing purposes. Burning Springs, on the Great Kanawha River, so long viewed as a curiosity, was no more than a natural escape of gas



from the strata of the earth. This "burning spring" was first first discovered by President Washington, and a "warrant" was placed upon it by him in 1754, and he owned the property for nearly fifty years.

Natural gas was first used under the evaporating vats of salt furnaces on the great Kanawha River, in Kanawha County. The large volume of gas which goes to waste in this State in sections suitable for manufacturing purposes, should be a strong incentive for capitalists to come to the "Mountain State" where an abundance of gas may be had at a cost much less than the expense of solid fuel in the form of coal or wood, or, indeed, any other sort of fuel.

I have said nothing in this article in regard to timber. All I now wish to say is that we have over eight million acres of virgin forests, covering all classes of hard and soft woods. No State, in my judgment, can offer opportunities to lumbermen equal to the State of West Virginia. And while we do not profess to be a great farming country, yet our soil is rich, the climate is good and farming is profitable. Our location as to the great markets of the east and north is so satisfactory, that farmers and stockraisers can make no mistake by investigating the advantages which West Virginia offers to these industries.

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## ARBOR DAY PROCLAMATION.

STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA,  
EXECUTIVE CHAMBER,  
CHARLESTON, Sept. 5, 1899.

WHEREAS, the State of West Virginia has not established by Legislative act, a day to be known as

### ARBOR DAY,

as has been done by many of our sister States; and

WHEREAS, I am clearly of the opinion that it is the duty of our people to begin the custom of planting trees, as well as devoting their best energies, as they have been doing for a hundred years, to cutting and destroying our trees, which a wise

and beneficent Providence caused to grow and flourish in the valleys and on the hill-sides of almost every acre of ground within our borders; and

WHEREAS, the time has arrived, in my judgment, to plant trees as well as to destroy them, which we have been doing for so many years, and are still doing, I feel it to be my duty, as Chief Executive of the State of West Virginia, to call the attention of all of our people to this important matter.

THEREFORE, I, George W. Atkinson, Governor of the Commonwealth of West Virginia, do hereby proclaim and set apart Wednesday, October 11, 1899, as

### ARBOR DAY

in the State of West Virginia, to be recognized as a day for the planting of trees by any and all persons who believe in building as well as destroying. Let this day be set apart by every individual citizen of the State of West Virginia as a day on which every citizen, of mature years, will agree to plant a tree of some sort, indigenous to our climate and locality. We have one million people in our State. At fewest one-fifth of this million are old enough and strong enough to plant one tree, to be known in the the future as his or her tree. Time alone can tell what the fruits will be from such planting. Let us try it, my fellow-citizens. It will cost us but little time or effort. Walnut, poplar and white pine trees are getting scarce in West Virginia. Why not plant them numerously, and in this way renew the crop? These particular trees do not reproduce themselves. The people alone can reproduce them. Let us go to work, as we ought to do, to perpetuate the crops of these rapidly departing West Virginia trees.

An old Arab proverb says, "Blessed is the man who planteth a tree." Why should not all of our mature people be classed among the "blessed"? I can assign no good reason why we as West Virginians should not be so classed. Can you?

In view of all of these facts, I call upon all good citizens of the State of West Virginia, to join with me in making Arbor Day,

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 11, 1899,

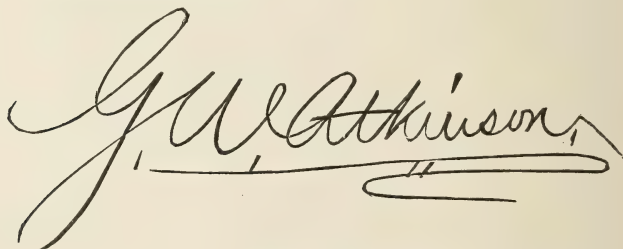
an overwhelming success, as the first real ARBOR DAY West Virginia has ever observed,

To carry out my idea in this important matter, I call upon every public school teacher in the State of West Virginia, every Board of Education, all Boards of Trustees of our public schools, the Board of Regents of the West Virginia University, the Board of Regents of our State Normal Schools, all farmers, and citizens generally; whether residents of country, town or city, throughout the entire State, to cause the day named to be a day for general tree planting, which will be remembered as a day in which West Virginia took one step forward to preserve her forests and beautify the homes of her people with trees which God gave to them as his heritage to mankind.

To this end let every West Virginian take part. Let suitable programmes be formulated by our schools of all grades, and let all the people take a hand to make it a day long to be remembered, so that it may not be discontinued, as the years come and go, while the world stands.

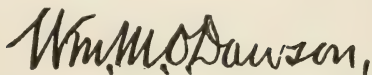
IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I hereto sign my name, and cause the great seal of the State to be affixed, this the 5th day of September, A. D., 1899, at the City of Charleston, and in the 37th year of the State.

[SEAL.]



Governor of West Virginia.

By the Governor:



Secretary of State.



## A RESPITE.

CHARLESTON, WEST VIRGINIA,  
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT, Oct. 9, 1899.

### A PROCLAMATION BY THE GOVERNOR.

WHEREAS, at the June Term 1899, of the Criminal Court of McDowell County, one Frank Broadenax was indicted for the murder of Sherman McFadden; and,

WHEREAS, at the August Term of said Criminal Court the said Frank Broadenax was convicted of murder in the first degree, and was sentenced to be hung at the Penitentiary of the State on the tenth (10th) day October, 1899; and,

WHEREAS, it appears from statements made to me by said Broadenax and others that he was not guilty of malicious intent to murder the said McFadden, but on the contrary the said murder was the result of accident and carelessness; and,

WHEREAS, it seems to be my duty in the premises to grant sufficient time to said Broadenax to furnish me with all the evidence taken at the trial in the Criminal Court of McDowell County aforesaid:

THEREFORE, I, George W. Atkinson, Governor of the State of West Virginia, do hereby grant a respite of thirty (30) days to said Broadenax, in order to enable him and his friends to furnish me with the evidence taken at his trial aforesaid.

If, in the mean time, the evidence which it is claimed he can furnish me, does not satisfy my mind fully that the murder of said McFadden was the result of accident and carelessness and not malice, I hereby order that at the expiration of thirty (30) days, as aforesaid, namely on Thursday, the ninth (9th) day of November, 1899, the Warden of the Penitentiary shall proceed to execute the said Frank Broadenax in accordance with the sentence of the Judge of the Criminal Court of McDowell County, rendered at the August Term, 1899, aforesaid.

Given under my hand this ninth (9th) day of October, A. D., 1899, at the City of Moundsville, in the State of West Virginia.

G. W. ATKINSON.

By the Governor:

WM. M. O. DAWSON,  
Secretary of State.

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### A PROCLAMATION BY THE GOVERNOR.

WHEREAS, The tenth day of October, A. D., 1899, a respite of 30 days was granted Frank Broadenax, who was convicted of murder by the Criminal Court of McDowell County, and was sentenced to death—by hanging—that day. Said respite was given for a period of thirty days, until the evidence in the case could be carefully investigated by the Executive; and

WHEREAS, All of the evidence taken at the trial of said case has been procured and examined by the Executive, and,

WHEREAS, A careful examination of said evidence has satisfied the Executive, beyond all reasonable doubt, that said Frank Broadenax deliberately, maliciously and premeditatedly murdered Sherman McFadden, a boy not more than sixteen years of age, and should pay the penalty therefor.

THEREFORE, I, Geo. W. Atkinson, Governor of the State of West Virginia, do hereby order and direct that the Warden of the State Penitentiary shall hang the said Frank Broadenax by the neck until he is dead, on Thursday, the ninth day of November, 1899, and may the Lord have mercy upon his soul.

[SEAL.]      Given under my hand and the Seal of the  
State, at the city of Charleston, this 4th day  
of November, A. D., 1899.

G. W. ATKINSON,  
Governor.

By the Governor:  
WM. M. O. DAWSON,  
Secretary of State.

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### SOUTHERN INDUSTRIAL CONVENTION.

*Speech of Governor G. W. Atkinson, D. C. L., of West Virginia,  
Before the Southern Industrial Convention at  
Huntsville, Alabama.*

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*October 13, 1899.*

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MR. PRESIDENT AND GENTLEMEN OF THE CONVENTION:—

I am a Southern man with Northern principles, and I somehow feel that I ought to be allowed a good deal of latitude in

the remarks I may make here to-day. I am a Virginian—born and reared on the “sacred soil” of that great, old “Mother Commonwealth”. Her interests are mine and I revere and love the name of Virginia and the dear Virginia people. But having been educated mainly North of “Mason and Dixon’s line”, I could not do other than oppose human slavery and make the best fight I could for the universal freedom of the human race. Naturally I became a Republican in politics, and am one yet; but I am not here to talk politics and we will therefore pass that wholly by. I am here to-day as a Southern man, bred and born, to exchange views with my Southern brethren, and to join with them in a systematized movement, if one can be inaugurated, to bring to the attention of our countrymen, and to the world at large, the vast resources and the advantages which Nature has bestowed upon us as a people who fortunately reside in the Southern portion of our great Republic.

We are not here, Mr. Chairman, to talk either partisan politics or narrow sectionalism. We are here to compare views. We are here to consider what we owe to ourselves and to our country as citizens in doing what we can to bring to the attention of capitalists in and outside of the United States, the natural advantages which we possess as a people, and induce them, if we can, to come among us and invest their money to help them and us on in life. As I understand it, this is the sole purpose of this convention. If we adhere to this idea alone, and leave restricted sectionalism and partisan politics wholly outside, this great gathering will, I am sure, accomplish something; but if we inject the two monsters above referred to in our deliberations, it would have been better that all of us had remained at home.

If we confine ourselves to the course suggested, Mr. Chairman, much good will result from this Conference. If, however, we should chance to dip into a discussion of the tariff or finance, or so-called imperialism, or any other partisan political question, we will accomplish no good for the people we represent.

We have therefore assembled, my friends, to consider great business problems which concern one and all, and along this line I propose to talk. I am a Republican, as I have already stated, and I don’t care who knows it; but above and beyond everything else I am an American, and I stand afterwards for the South and for Southern people; and yet there is much of



what is called in newspapers as the "Southern idea," that I do not indorse. When my Southern fellow citizens close themselves tightly inside of a shell of prejudice, and resolve among themselves, as has been often done in the past, that there is nothing good or real or valuable outside of their way of doing and thinking, then I am not with them, but on the contrary I am squarely against them. To get on in this world, men must be broad and liberal and progressive. They must give and take, and must meet their fellow men half-way on all important issues. The only fit place for narrow-minded, pop-eyed, pigeon-livered bigots is in grave-yards, and the sooner they get there the better for all concerned. This is plain talk, but I am like the old Methodist brother who wrote out his prayer and pasted it on the wall near the head of his bed, and every night when he retired, he simply exclaimed, "Dear Lord, them's my sentiments", and leaped into bed. I am simply expressing my honest sentiments—nothing more, nothing less. If any of you object, I can not help it. I came over a thousand miles to meet with you and talk over the big business problems which confront us as Southern people, and to do what I can as an humble citizen to bring growth and prosperity to our people in the richest and most promising portion of the Republic.

As I have already said, Mr. President, God in his wisdom and his goodness, planted in the Southland of our wonderful country, vast beds of natural wealth, and it seems to me that he intended us to utilize these resources on the spots where he left them, and not allow them to be shipped away to other and often remote sections to be worked up into finished products for consumption by our Southern people. I may be wrong in this conclusion, my fellow citizens, but nevertheless I have been sticking to this idea and talking it and arguing it for more than a quarter of a century; and as I haven't much longer to live in the world, I propose to keep on talking it till I die.

The larger portion of all the Southern States, my hearers, is wonderfully endowed with what is commonly called "natural resources". In addition to this, the climate is mild and equable, the soil is rich, the scenery is unsurpassed, the great waterways offer cheap transportation, and the people are open-hearted, kind and generous to a fault. In all the Southland there is no record of one asking bread and being given a stone, or asking a fish and being handed a serpent. Our Southern people are

not built that way. It is a well known fact that they will in an emergency divide their last loaf of bread with a brother in need.

This well known peculiarity, I think, is greatly to their credit as a people. A tender-hearted, sympathetic man is worthy to be classed as the "salt of the earth". There is a large amount of this sort of *salt* in the warp and the woof and filtered into the blood of nearly all of our Southern people, and it will stand greatly to their credit until the cycles cease to roll.

Pardon me, my fellow citizens, for bringing to your attention some of the prominent resources of my own State; and when I speak of West Virginia, my remarks may be applied in a measure to perhaps a half-dozen other Southern States, almost if not equal in wealth with my own State of West Virginia. While West Virginia is a fairly good agricultural State, her great wealth lies mainly in coal and oil and gas and timber.

In coal our increase for the fiscal year ending June 30th, 1899, over the preceeding year, was 1,404,752 tons. Our output for this year is 17,415,000 long tons of 2240 pounds to the ton. At this ratio of increase, we will reach the 20,000,000 line inside of three years.

In coke production we are second to Pennsylvania. Our output for the present fiscal year was 1,900,000 tons,—an increase of over a quarter of a million tons over last year. Many new coke ovens are now being constructed, and it is hard to tell what position the State will hold as a coke producer five years hence.

In both coal and coke, as well as in oil and gas, West Virginia's development has been almost phenomenal.

As to oil and gas, fellow citizens, my State is unquestionably the eternal centre. We rarely bore a deep hole in the earth that we do not find one or the other of these now invaluable products. The first oil well was drilled in what is now the State of West Virginia in 1859, and a good flow of oil was discovered. Since then thousands and even tens of thousands of wells have been drilled from which have been taken not fewer than 80,000,000 barrels of the oleaginous fluid. Our output of oil now averages from sixteen to twenty million barrels every year.

In 1891 Pennsylvania produced over thirteen times as much oil as did West Virginia. In 1899 we outran our neighbor in the oil race, and we are now in the lead to stay. Since 1891 the production in Pennsylvania has decreased over fifty per cent.,

and in the same period West Virginia has increased a little above five hundred per cent. Therefore as productions decrease in adjoining oil States, the natural course of oil seeking capital will be to extend the present boundaries of the oil pools of West Virginia. Having apparently unlimited oil territory, our West Virginia people must hereafter furnish the greater portion of this essential article for many years to come.

As to timber, Mr. Chairman, I need only say that a large portion of our West Virginia hills are still covered with all kinds of desirable timber. We estimate that we have in the neighborhood of eight million acres of virgin forests. Not forests of the puny sort, but forests of trees so tall that one has to lie flat on his back to see to the tops of some of the tallest of them. When a squirrel gets on the topmost branches of the very highest of some of our great trees, he does not look much bigger than one of your healthy, well developed, double-decker female Alabama mosquitos. Some of you think that I am dealing in hyperboles, but I tell you, my friends, there is more truth than poetry in these off-hand statements. If you prefer not to accept my statements, come up to West Virginia and see for yourselves. One thing you can always bank on, a Virginian won't lie,—he'll steal first, and then kill you if you catch him at it. (Laughter.)

But I almost forgot to say a few words about West Virginia gas. I don't mean the kind of *gas* that some of you evidently are thinking about. I mean the gas that God made,—the kind you get out of the bowels of the earth, and not the sort that evolves or evolutes out of the bowels of political wind-bags. I do not mean the wind-jammer men, some of whom you have down here in Alabama,—that class are practically a "has been" in West Virginia. That "race" with us is substantially extinct. Like the Buffalo and the mastodon and the razor-backed hog, they are gone, and we are happy that it is so. While we are "boomers" in a sense, we don't "blow" simply because we don't have to. The fact is my friends, it keeps us busy to tell the truth, and we therefore have no time to do the other thing. I tell you the unvarnished truth, my hearers, when I declare that we are as busy as *nailers* trying to get rich ourselves off the products which God gave us, and at the same time we are endeavoring to make everybody else rich who will come among us and join the throng of our busy-bee workers. If a man wants employment at good wages in West Virginia, he can get it for



the asking; and the opportunities for capitalists to invest money with the early prospect of big returns never was so good as now. And I want to tell you, my friends, they are coming, not in droves, so to speak, but they are coming and are taking a hand in digging the dusky diamonds from our hillsides and are pumping out the pools of oil which Pluto has been distilling since Adam left the garden of Eden with his shovel and his hoe; and still there is room for more. Our doors and arms are open to receive all comers, and our latch-strings, as they say out West, are always on the outside. We don't care "a Continental red" where a man comes from if he has get-up-and-get in his make-up. We draw no political or sectional lines on any one. We have got away beyond that, my countrymen, yes, way beyond that! We have long since forgotten where the North ends and where the South begins. We quit calling Northern people "Yankees" years ago, because we learned the important fact that the Northern fellows had sense, sand and shekels, and these are the sort of fellows that win, and they are the sort of fellows that we want for citizens of our State. What we need in West Virginia is more Yankee nerve and money, and we are willing to burn red lights and kill the fatted calf when they come. Long ago we quit fooling about where a man comes from when he locates among us. All we want to know is *he somebody*, and we at once proceed to take him in the same as if he were one of our *native born countrymen*.

The trouble with you folks, my countrymen, down here in the extreme South is that you have been too exclusive and too hide-bound in your ideas for a full hundred years. What care you where a man comes from *if he is a man*? What you have needed above everything else down here in *God's own country* for a hundred years or more, is a lot of enterprising, go-ahead class of men; men with money, men of nerve, men of enterprise, men of sense and men who know how to do something and do it right. These are the sort of people you need to help you on in life. They are the kind of people who open coal mines and build mills and factories and furnaces and forges. What care you whence they came? I am glad to know that the most of you have quit fooling about these most important matters to your growth, development and prosperity. God Almighty intended the South-land to be the centre of practically all manufacturing for our great country. I say this with em-

phasis, because he placed in this South-land the great bulk of the raw materials from which all finished products must evolve. What sense is there for you to ship your cotton, iron, coal and other products to the North or to England and pay your good money to their skilled laborers to work them into the finished products, and then buy back again these finished products, always paying the manufacturer's prices? It seems to me that people—educated people—would not do anything of this sort. And yet you, and I may say, our Southern people generally have been doing this sort of foolish business for over a hundred years. Our West Virginia people, thank God, Mr. Chairman, have quit this sort of nonsense, and we have gone into business in dead earnest for ourselves, and we are beginning to reap, in a large degree, the benefits of our energy and our enterprise.

Mr. Chairman, I cannot express myself more clearly upon this point at issue than by using a letter I wrote to your very efficient Secretary, Mr. N. F. Thompson, which letter bears date July 9, 1899. With your permission, sir, I will read this letter:

“CHARLESTON, WEST VA., July 9, 1899.

“N. F. Thompson, Esq.,

“Secretary Chamber of Commerce,

“Huntsville, Alabama.

“DEAR SIR:—

“I have before me your letter of July 3rd, calling my attention to the fact of an industrial convention to be held at Huntsville, Monday, September 4th, next, and inviting me to be present. Being a Southern man myself, both by birth and education, it is needless for me to say that I am in deep sympathy with any movement that will advance the industrial progress of the entire South. I have always held that the South should be, and will be, the main manufacturing section of our great Republic. I have adhered to this idea because of the fact that the raw materials are found in the South, and a wise Providence certainly intended that manufacturing should be conducted where the raw material exists. If the South, years ago, had taken up this question in its proper light, and had undertaken to manufacture its raw material on its own soil, employing its own labor and thus keeping its own money for distribution in its own territory, it would have been far in advance of what it now is.

“I am glad to know, however, that within the last few years

it has abandoned its former custom of shipping its raw material to Northern sections where it was manufactured, and then purchasing the finished products, paying the manufacturer's prices for the same, and has at last gone to work doing its own manufacturing. The South has the advantage of the Northern States in coal, soil and climate, as well as in other natural resources; therefore, if proper enterprise be shown by our Southern people, they will transfer during the next generation practically all of the manufacturing establishments from the Northern and Central portions of the Republic to the Southland, where they ought to have been for a hundred years.

"I have spoken my views briefly upon this subject, and in plain language, because I am interested in the development and advancement of the South, and have done my utmost for more than a quarter of a century to help my own people along in life. I trust that this industrial gathering of our Southern people at Huntsville will give a fresh impetus to Southern development, and that it will largely be attended by our representative people."

The wealth of our country, my fellow citizens, is becoming colossal; but as it has, in most cases, only been the reward of industry and enterprise, it can neither demoralize its possessors nor the people at large. The field of gain is so vast and varied that the mass of the plain people have shared and are now sharing in its abundance. Our prosperity as a Nation is not accidental. It is not merely a phase of the remarkable development of a remarkable age. On the contrary, it is the outgrowth of the enterprise, genius and pluck of our citizens. What we, as Southern people, should strive for is to share properly in this wonderful development and growth.

American history, Mr. President, has been a lesson as well as an inspiration to me. New England made the "New South" possible, just as Egypt, Assyria, Babylon and Persia made Greece and Rome possible. The North and the East have the *lakes*, the grit and the money; the two extremes of the Nation each has an Ocean; and the Middle and the Southern States have the great rivers which flow southward to the Gulf. The Mississippi basin is the heart of the Continent and the granary of the Nation, and it will some day be the most populous portion of the Republic, and its shipping will be all, or nearly all, across the Mexican Gulf. There is no guess work about this.



In the fullness of time it will come; and if we leap upon the tide, we will share in the profits and the glories that will follow.

Mr. Chairman, I see great growth and development throughout the South in the near future. The North cannot keep pace with us in the production of cotton and iron, and they are the two main products of the country. We already have the great waterways to the sea, and the railroads are coming slowly and surely. The best harbors of the land are along Southern borders. The Nicaragua canal is a fixed fact, and when completed, heavy freights must pass down the Ohio and Mississippi rivers to the Gulf and thence across the isthmus to the broad, blue Pacific Ocean. The laps of the West, the populous productive Central States and the States of the South all lie together. For generations New York and New England have conducted eight-tenths of American shipping. The large western and central cities have poured their surplus products into Northern and Eastern markets. All this trade should go Southward, because that is the natural outlet to the sea. This traffic is pointing Southward now as our trade with the Central and South American Republics is increasing. By and by those Southern sister Republics will become customers for the great bulk of our surplus manufactured products, and all, or nearly all, of the shipments will be made through Southern ports. And when the Nicaragua canal is completed, the millenium will have dawned on our people, and the South will then blossom as the rose. (Applause.)

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## THANKSGIVING PROCLAMATION.

In accordance with a time-honored custom, and one worthy to be continued in all civilized lands, I hereby set apart

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 1899,

as a day of Thanksgiving, praise and prayer to Almighty God for His mercy and goodness to the people of our State and Country; and I request that this day may be observed as such by a cessation from all business vocations and by public gatherings in consecrated places, in order that God may be glorified

for the bountiful blessings He has bestowed upon all of our people.

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"It is a good thing to give thanks unto the Lord, and to sing praises unto thy name, O most High." *Psalms* 92:1.

"Then they took away the stone \* \* \* \* and Jesus lifted up his eyes, and said, Father I thank thee that thou hast heard me." *John* 11:41.

"And when these living creatures give glory and honor and thanks to him that sat on the throne, who liveth forever and ever." *Rev.* 4:9.

"Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might, be unto our God forever and ever." *Rev.* 7:12.

"Offer unto God thanksgiving; and pay thy vows unto the most High." *Psalms* 50:14.

"First, I thank my God through Jesus Christ for you all, that your faith is spoken of throughout the whole world. *Rom.* 1:8.

"And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the father by him." *Col.* 3:17.

"By him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to his name." *Hebrews* 13:15.

"Giving thanks always for all things unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ." *Eph.* 5:20.

"I will give thanks in the great congregation: I will praise thee among much people. *Psalms* 35:18.

"In everything give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you." *I. Thess.* 5:18.

"So stood the two companies of them that gave thanks in the house of God, and I, and the half of the rulers with me." *Neh.* 12:40.

"Cease not to give thanks for you, making mention of you in my prayers." *Eph.* 1:16.

"We give thanks to God always for you all, making mention of you in our prayers." *I. Thess.* 1:2.

"Sing unto the Lord, O ye saints of his, and give thanks at the remembrance of his holiness." *Psalms* 30:4.

"Rejoice in the Lord ye righteous; and give thanks at the remembrance of his holiness." *Psalms* 97:12.

"Praise ye the Lord, O give thanks unto the Lord; for he is good; for his mercy endureth forever." *Psalms* 106:1.

"O give thanks unto the Lord, for he is good: for his mercy endureth forever." *Psalms* 107:1; also *Psalms* 136:1-3.

"We give thanks to thee, O Lord God Almighty, which art, and wast, and are to come, because thou hast taken to thee thy great power, and hast reigned." *Rev.* 11:17.

"I thank thee and praise thee, O thou God of my fathers, who hast given me wisdom and might, and hast made known unto me now what we desired of thee." *Daniel* 2:23.

"He that regardeth the day, regardeth it unto the Lord; and he that regardeth not the day, to the Lord he doth not regard it. He that eateth, eateth to the Lord, for he giveth God thanks." *Romans* 14:6.

"I exhort therefore that first of all, supplication, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks, be made for all men." *I. Tim.* 2:1.

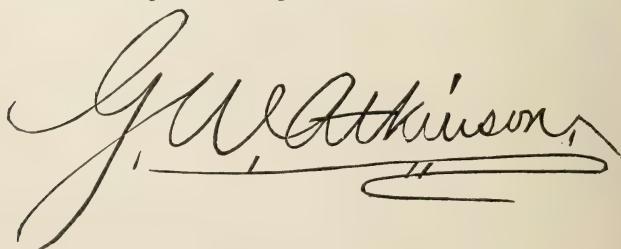
"I thank God, whom I serve from my forefathers with pure conscience, that without ceasing I have remembrance of thee in my prayers night and day." *II. Tim.* 1:2.

"I will praise the name of God with a song, and will magnify him with thanksgiving." *Psalms* 69:30; also *Psalms* 95 in its entirety.

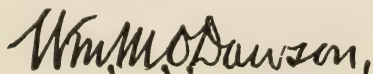
"And to stand every morning to thank and praise the Lord, and likewise at even." *I. Chron.* 13:30; also 29:6-14.

[SEAL.]

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State, at the City of Charleston, this Thirtieth day of October in the year of Our Lord Eighteen Hundred and Ninety-nine and the thirty-seventh year of the State.



By the Governor:



Secretary of State.



## REMARKS

*of Governor G. W. Atkinson, Relative to Death of Dr. A. M. Evans, of Halltown, W. Va., Before the Grand Lodge of Free Masons.*

*November 14, 1899.*

Bro. Past Grand Master Evans is dead. We knew him in life. We mourn because of his death. As a Mason he stood among his fellows as a bright example of the teachings of our Institution, and was in his daily walk a living embodiment of the virtues that it inculcated. His loss is universally mourned by all who knew him in life. All of us who knew him personally loved him because we knew him well. His sun went down just after it reached the horizon and began receding toward the West. It settled beyond the western hills, and darkness fell upon many lonely and loving hearts. It was God's will, not ours, that his sun should set before due evening-tide had come. He could not prevent its setting. We could not prevent it. All we could do was to stand and watch. We stood and the light went out, and we were left in darkness and in gloom. We believe a new and better sun arose beyond the setting of this earthly life. But of its brilliancy we can not speak. As Masons, we believe that there is a better and a purer world beyond. We believe in the Fatherhood of God and the Brotherhood of Man. We believe that in the dim hereafter, there is an everlasting summer-land of song. The flowers come and bloom and wither and die, and in the spring-time they come and bloom again; therefore "Death does not end all." We see through a glass darkly, but in the dim beyond we see the true, loving hearts meeting and greeting "where the wicked cease from troubling and the weary are at rest."

We believe in God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Ghost. The profane may laugh at this doctrine, but our Order teaches that it is true. "The fool may say in his heart, there is no God," but men of sense; men who have studied Divine Revelation; men who have thought; men who have inves-

tigated Nature; men who look forward and not backward, say that it is absolutely a fact.

One may look at a watch, and with as much propriety say there is no watch-maker, as to look at the myriads of worlds around us, and say there is no world-maker. My brothers, there is a God. There is an eternity. There is a heaven. We are but sojourners here. Life is but a bubble upon the waves. We see it for a moment and it is gone. We look and wonder and are lost in the mystery of what is and what is yet to come. We stand upon a summit and we look out into the future and are amazed at the emptiness of vision. As we thus stand, the clouds lower and we see no more. Faith enters and points out the way. God rises in the distance and says "I am the way." We look up and behold the "Tree of Life" dimly but surely in the distance. The gloom rises, and if we have true faith, we "Look and live."

Our departed brother was a man of faith. He was respected by his neighbors and was beloved by all. Charming in his manner and ways, every acquaintance became a friend, and every friend deplores his loss.

His funeral was held in the retired, unpretentious town where he had lived and toiled so long, and his numerous neighbors and friends threw upon his bier a flower of gratitude and love.

So the watching is ended at home;  
Yet a whisper of peace  
Bids the flowing tears cease,  
For to wait and to toil—yea, to toil and to wait,  
Is Earth's passport to Rest within Heaven's fair Gate.

The sun of our Brother Evans has forever set behind the horizon of our view, but the memory of his just, virtuous and upright life will linger as a beautiful twilight in the memories of all who knew him.

Peace to his ashes,  
Rest to his soul.

## REMARKS

*of Governor G. W. Atkinson, of West Virginia, Past Grand Master, and now Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of West Virginia, at a Masonic Banquet, in the City of Washington, at the 100th Celebration of the Death of President Washington, who was a distinguished Freemason.*

*December 14, 1899.*

MR. TOASTMASTER AND BRETHREN:—

This is perhaps the largest and most important gathering of Freemasons that the world has any record of. Indeed, I may say that it is the first assembly of the kind ever held on this Continent, or, for that matter, upon any other. The occasion therefore is an auspicious one, and will go into Masonic history as perhaps the most important, and certainly the most conspicuous our great country has ever witnessed.

West Virginia Masons congratulate the Mother State over the splendid results of our assembling together to-day on Virginia soil, with representatives of the time-honored Order of Freemasons from every section of the Great Republic. West Virginia Masons are all the more gratified, because of the fact that we have with us two of the near relatives and descendants of the late President Washington whom we have sought to honor by the great Masonic gathering of to-day. I refer to Brothers Bushrod C. and George Washington, who are present upon this floor, and both of whom are distinguished citizens of the State of West Virginia, and members of our Fraternity.

My brethren, the United States has been and is prolific of distinguished men. She is the mother of the minute men of freedom, and the reliable men of statesmanship. The names of many of them are household words, and they will remain such for centuries to come, and perhaps forever. But, my brethren, it makes no difference how tall the shafts upon which the names



of these statesmen and patriots may be carved by an admiring and liberty-loving people, the names of two will ever stand pre-eminently above all the rest—Washington and Lincoln.

Distinct as they were individually and widely differing in almost all their characteristics, they will ever represent the highest types of American manhood. Widely differing in nearly every other respect, yet they were the same in that broad humanity, that sterling patriotism, that serene uprightness of character which underlie the true elements of genuine American manhood.

In Washington, my friends, we have the man of education, the scion of an aristocratic and noted household, reared in an atmosphere of monarchical ideas and predilections; all of which however he was able to cast aside, and thus sacrifice opportunities for preferment, that he might engage in an apparently hopeless effort for the freedom of his countrymen. He risked his all to see the Nation established. And like Lord Nelson at Trafalgar, he won; but he won more than a peerage, or a grave at Westminster Abbey,—he won forever the title, “First in war, first in peace, and first in the hearts of his countrymen.”

My brethren, as long as the Nation endures, as long as the fire of patriotism burns in the breasts of true Americans, the name of Worshipful Brother George Washington, a Mason in whom there was no guile, will ever be characterized as the founder and maker of the greatest government and Nation beneath the stars; and will also beforever ranked as her foremost son.

One hundred years ago George Washington, that patriot of patriots, breathed his last, and the centenary of that event was solemnly celebrated throughout the length and breadth of the land to-day. If it were possible for the “Father of his Country” to revisit us he would be greatly astounded at the progress of the Nation of which he was the inspiration, and whose genius nursed it through a stormy infancy. He would find in these days of remarkable things that no greater advancement has been made than in the science of medicine; that in these days the only bleeding done by physicians is of the pocket-book of the patient, but that they, however, do not rob a man in his sixty-eighth year of eighty-two ounces of blood, or above two and a half quarts of the vital fluid, for an inflammatory affection of the upper part of the wind-pipe. This treatment to

which Washington was subjected aroused a great deal of discussion among the medical faculty of the time, some eminent physicians maintaining that the illustrious patient had simply been bled to death. But it is seldom that doctors do agree, and like discussions arose over the treatment of the lamented Garfield when medical science was far and away in advance of the primitive methods of Washington's day and generation.

It took four days for the news of the death of our first President to reach Congress, in session at Philadelphia, intelligence which could now be transmitted in as many seconds. The wonders of time are marvelous, but certainly all surprises have been eclipsed by the strides the country has made since Washington was laid to his final rest at Mt. Vernon. That he has lived in the warm regard and first affections of a nervous, energetic and advancing people is evidence of the immortality of his fame. And to-day, as it did one hundred years ago, in the language of President Adams, who transmitted the news of his death to Congress, "it remains for an affectionate and grateful people, in whose hearts he can never die, to pay suitable honors to his memory."

Brethren, as my closing remark in this splendid presence to-night, let me add what I believe to be true, and that is, that the name of George Washington, in the affections and devotion of the American people, towers above all others as yonder monument, erected to his memory, rises grandly above the foundations upon which it stands.

## DEDICATION OF ODD FELLOWS TEMPLE.

*Address of Governor G. W. Atkinson, Past Grand, at Dedication of New Odd Fellows Temple, Morgantown, W. Va.*

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MEMBERS OF THE INDEPENDENT ORDER OF ODD FELLOWS, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN:—

My text to-day is, "Behold how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity. It is like the precious ointment on the head, that ran down upon the beard, even Aaron's beard. That went down to the skirts of his garment. As the dew of Hermon and the dew that descended upon the mountain of Zion; for there the Lord commanded the blessing, even life forever more."

As to the exact location of the text, I am as much at sea as an old colored preacher I once read of, who after announcing his subject, said: "Brethering, you will find the text somewhar betwixt de fust chapter of Generations and de last chapter of Revolutions; and I think you will find it over dar in de Bible whar de Postle Paul pinted his pistol at de Canadians." (Loud laughter.)

Brotherhood, my friends, is Fraternity, and Fraternity is the unity of purpose and the unity of action. I heartily endorse all Fraternal organizations, and I endorse the Independent Order of Odd Fellows especially, because it is one of the oldest and the largest and the best of all the benevolent secret societies of the world. It is secret only in so far as its inward workings are concerned, but it is open and public in all that it does for the betterment of society and the uplifting of the human race. (Applause.)

All Fraternal societies, in my judgment, have been a blessing to the countries that fostered them. They promote thrift, economy, sobriety, intelligence, manliness. They teach men to think, to reason, to create sympathy for one another, and above all, they teach charity and mercy. True religion—or at least the big human end of religion—is to give bread to the hungry, water to the thirsty, to visit the sick, to comfort the dying, and to shelter the widow and the orphan. This great organization



teaches all of these principles; and I want to tell you, my friends, so long as it adheres strictly to these tenets, it will keep on living and growing greater and more useful as it grows older in years. (Applause.)

Co-operation, my brethren, is a modern method of achieving great results. One man can do but little if he work alone. Many persons by combining and working together in a common cause and toward a common end can achieve wonders. I have read history backwards, if I have not learned that those Nations which encouraged co-operation are always the greatest Nations. Indeed, it cannot be denied that co-operation is the most potential lever for general usefulness of the times in which we live. The great empires were made by the uniting of Dominions and States which possessed a common interest and a common purpose. By thus uniting they became invincible and thus commanded the respect, not to say fear, of the great Powers that surrounded them. The experiences of all the ages, therefore, justify the statement that "in unity there is strength." In verification of this statement, I am going to relate a dream:

I thought I was at sea, saw a great commotion, and heard many voices high and loud. It was a conference of the waves. Listening, I heard one wave say, "See that great city yonder with her massive buildings, tall spires and minarets. That is New York, the metropolis of the Republic of the United States, the greatest, grandest, freest, richest government beneath the stars. (Cheers.) Let us inundate that city and we inundate the States; say shall it be done," and there followed a big swell which I interpreted as saying, "It shall be done," and I trembled for my country and my people. But a lull succeeded it, and in its quiet I heard a modest voice say, "Under present circumstances it is impossible. Along the coast at the base of that mighty city, there are millions upon millions of little grains of sand, tiny and weak apart from one another, but massive and strong when united, as they now are, and while that remains, the thing is not only impracticable, but absolutely impossible; divide those grains of sand and your work is done." Blue with anger and foaming in passion, the leader leaped upon the back of the tide, while the winds gave martial music, and with a voice like that of thunder, cried, "We avenge the insult. On! on!!" And on they went toward the shore; and as I saw it in my dream, the march

was grand—awfully grand. Nothing daunted, the sands kept close, compact, united. The waves dashed on, foaming, seething, roaring, cloud-clapped and sparkling in the sunlight. On and on they rolled with mighty fury, but when they struck the beach—that mighty breast-work of pebbles and sand—they broke into fragments and were as powerless as the grave. In delight I shouted, victory! a city saved! thank God in union there is strength! I awoke from my dream and found it was so. Yes, brethren, in union there is strength, and all the world knows it, the waves of the sea, Odd Fellowship, and the little grains of sand teach it. It has been so from the time that Adam left the Garden of Eden with his shovel and his hoe, and will remain such until time shall cease to be. (Applause.)

My brethren, we have to-day dedicated a temple, which is in every respect a credit to this growing, progressive city, and to this progressive Order also. With pride we remember to-day that the founders of this world-famed Fraternity themselves builded a Temple. Not one, however, like the edifice which this Grand Lodge has dedicated to-day, an edifice of stone and brick and mortar and wood, but a magnificent Temple, whose foundation is Friendship, Love and Truth, whose massive walls encompass the earth and embrace all nations and creeds, and teach all classes everywhere to be honest, upright, just and true. Not by piling up pyramids of stone or brick walls that tower skyward in God's bright sunlight, wherein tyrants or imposters or great rulers may at last as embalmed mummies sleep, or palaces wherein luxury and licentiousness may revel and rule; but an edifice of Charity and Love wherein the sorrowing are comforted and broken-hearts are mended and the needy are relieved. (Loud applause.)

Wise men of all ages class experience as a dear teacher, but not so when it teaches Truth. Time is known as a great leveler, but its value is incalculable if it levels men up instead of down. As the years roll by, they drop blessings as well as burdens, duties as well as honors, dignities as well as experience. They may perchance dampen youthful ardor, yet they bestow a silver crown. While they may perhaps subdue the fire of ambitious manhood, they nevertheless develop the elements of wisdom. Odd Fellowship is guided in its march onward by the lamp of experience; and while it glories in its past record, it lives in the present, and strives for greater conquests in the years that are to come. (Applause.)

Man, my friends, is a social being, who clings to the good opinion and the kindly wishes of his kind, and loves the common ties which bind him to his associates and friends. If truly wise, he profits by experience as he is refined by associations. If he is a true man, he becomes better as he grows wiser and up-lifts society as he broadens his own sphere of manhood by doing good to others.

Truth is an abiding tenet of this great Order. It is the golden cord which unites man to God, and the silver thread that binds man securely to his brother. A golden chain between man and God—a silver one between man and man. This is a symbol of Fraternity; and Fraternity called us together to-day. Fraternity laid the corner-stone, fraternity erected the building thereon, and fraternity to-day has solemnly dedicated this splendid edifice to Friendship, Love and Truth. (Applause.)

Civilization, my brethren, was born in Asia, was cradled in Europe, and grew to manhood in America. Benevolence moves hand in hand with civilization, but it develops fastest under a free sky. Where every one owns himself, men are most concerned about the welfare of others. Charity flourishes fastest when warmed by the air of liberty. (Applause.) It is deepest rooted where the masses are in touch with one another. Thus men are made true Odd Fellows by one another. The touch of elbows in a noble cause makes an irresistible, unconquerable army; and such an army is this noble Order to which we belong to-day. (Applause.)

I am proud to associate with such a body of men as these before me to-day, when I look at the generosity of Odd Fellowship. This Society is founded upon God's law, and yet it is not a religious society. Neither is it a political organization nor party. It is not of any Church sect. It stands out upon the high level where Jew and Gentile can clasp hands and hold one another up. Under its broad shield, all true men can meet and act in the one grand object to make the world cleaner, and sweeter, and happier and better. (Applause.)

My brethren, three things develop true manhood, viz: Right, courage, charity. To be right is to be truly great. To be courageous is to be right and stand by it, and to be charitable is to exemplify in kindly acts the big human end of religion, which is to do unto others as you would have them do unto you. These three elements have made Odd Fellowship wonder-



ful and great; and so long as it adheres to these great principles, it will always be strong and noble and great and good. (Cheers.)

My fellow citizens, I have said that this Order is not a religious society, but it is nevertheless in a sense an auxiliary of the Church of the Christ. Odd Fellowship operates on the moral natures of men, while the Church operates on both their moral and spiritual natures. Morality is not religion. Both of these great organizations, however, are in perfect harmony in the one great object and purpose of lifting humanity upward to a higher plane of intelligence and usefulness. (Applause.)

Uniforms and guns and swords and cannons do not made soldiers. Soldiers, on the contrary, are made by the services they render on the march and in the brunt of battle. Real men do not grow on parlor carpets any more than trees grow in hot beds. Real men are made by coming in contact with their fellow men, just as trees are made to take deeper root and stand all the firmer by the storms that beat against them. Odd Fellows are not made by the uniforms and jewels they wear, but by the cleanness of their lives and the exemplification in their daily avocations of the principles of virtue and morality which they profess and which the Order teaches and requires at their hands. The tap-root of Odd-Fellowship is benevolence, charity, morality, just as the tap-root of the Church is a vivid apprehension of the great revealed truths about accountability redemption, heaven, hell, immortality, eternity, which beat constantly about one's conscience like a shoreless ocean of fire. (Applause.) Therefore, my friends, I declare to-day that this Order is not one of show and display and thoughtless aim only, but one concerned solely for the good of mankind and the bettering of the world. The building that stands upon this solid foundation which this Grand Lodge has dedicated to-day, is only an outward exemplification of an inward principle, just as the Church edifice is the outward semblance of the great principles of salvation and love upon which it stands. Buildings and regalia and men are not Odd-Fellowship any more than brick walls and pews and men and women are the Church. These are only incidents and factors of Odd-Fellowship and the Church. The doctrines they teach, and the principles and truths upon which they stand, constitute their real essence. The buildings and members are only the shadow, while what they have

done and are doing are the substance, or the real thing itself. (Applause.)

Brethren, we are progressing. This is a marvelous age. The world is going forward at a rapid rate, and I speak the truth when I say this grand, old Order is abreast of the procession. (Applause.) When Gibbon closed his discussion of the reign of Marcus Aurelius, he said the second century was the happiest period of the world. That century, I grant, was a climax of progress, but it is totally eclipsed by the closing decade of our 19th century, because the bow of universal progress arches every sky. The legions of almost forgotten monarchs, like Marcus Aurelius, who ruled and ruined before this Order was founded, are sleeping beneath the tread of freedom's hosts, and on every sepulchre of history are strewn the ashes from the camp-fires of the army of progress. (Applause.) Over the relics of ignorance, on all sides and everywhere, the freemen of to-day are building stately homes, and are lifting mankind to a higher ideal of life and destiny. And in this great work, Odd-Fellowship is doing its full duty. (Loud cheers.)

It is said that Plato, the great Greek philosopher, in his passionate love for mathematics, inscribed over the entrance to his studio the words: "Let no one enter here who is not a lover of geometry." Odd Fellowship, through all the years of its history, has embellished in words of shining gold, over the portals of its every edifice, "Let no one enter here who is not a lover of his fellow man."

The beautiful melody of the Orientalist vibrates a responsive chord of Odd Fellowship:—

"Abou Ben Adhem (may his tribe increase)  
Awoke one night from a deep dream of peace,  
And saw within the moonlight in his room,  
Making it rich and like a lily in bloom,  
An angel writing in a book of gold;  
Exceeding peace had made Ben Adhem bold,  
And to the presence in the room he said:  
'What writest thou?'—the vision raised its head,  
And with a look made of all sweet accord  
Answered: 'The names of those who love the Lord,'  
'And is mine one?' said Abou: 'Nay not so,'  
Replied the angel. Abou spoke more low,  
But cheerly still; and said: 'I pray thee then,  
Write me as one who loves his fellow-men,'  
The angel wrote and vanished. The next night  
It came again, with a great awakening light,  
And showed the names whom love of God had blessed,  
And lo! Ben Adhem's name led all the rest." (Applause.)

My brethren and friends, while human sympathy endures Odd Fellowship will last. There is nothing more powerful than sympathy. It was the great, deep vein of sympathy that permeates all of Shakspeare's poems which gave him his marvelous grip upon all the ages. By it he puts his great arms around all the people and lifts them to a higher plane of living and a loftier conception of life. By it at last the weaknesses of all will finally be overcome, and all men will be raised to a higher and happier life. All hail! we look into the future and welcome the coming of the morn, radiant and effulgent, when the waves of the sea will become the crystal cords of a grand organ on which the fingers of everlasting love will peal the grand chorus of a world regenerated and redeemed. (Prolonged cheers).

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## PUBLIC SCHOOL BUILDING CORNER-STONE.

*Remarks of Governor Atkinson at the Laying of the Corner-Stone of a Public School Building at Moundsville, W. Va.*

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LADIES AND GENTLEMEN:—

The Masonic fraternity has laid more corner-stones of public buildings than all other societies combined. It laid the corner-stone of its own great edifice before the beginning of the Christian era, and all along the ages, in all countries and among all peoples, one of its chief occupations has been to lay, in accordance with its beautiful ceremonial rites, the corner-stones of school buildings, churches and the like. It is meet, therefore that it should engage in this laudable work, because of its high ideal of morals, and because it teaches peace and good will among men.

After the able and elaborate address of my friend and brother, Col. Rob't. White, who preceeded me, it will be out of place for me to say but little on this important occasion. This great audience is proof of the fact that the residents of this city, with-



out regard to class or condition, are in hearty sympathy with our Public School system—a system which has done so much in enlightening the minds of the youth of the State. I am grounded, my friends, in the belief that the hope of the future is the Public School of to-day. It is the corner-stone of patriotism and the bullwark of American freedom. The degree reached by the general education of the masses will gauge the degree of the civilization of our State. It cannot be denied that education has ever been the actual measure of human progress in all ages and in all lands. Education, therefore, not only brings intellectual development in its wake, but it is money saved to the State in suppressing disobedience to law. Educated people are tractable and easily controlled, and this is a potent reason why a general system of education should be fostered by the State. He therefore who does not stand at all times by our Common Schools, is neither loyal to himself nor to his common country.

The building which is to be erected upon this foundation is to be Moundsville's home for the education of its youth. Light and knowledge will go out therefrom for generations in the future. When this building becomes indifferent from age or insufficient for the needs of the city, another and better one will be erected in its stead. The investment made by the citizens of Moundsville in constructing this edifice is not only an investment for the present, but for the future also. But few of this vast throng will be pupils in this school building, but their children and their children's children will; and how thankful these young people ought to be for the improved educational advantages which they possess. If they could only contrast these modern school houses with the buildings in which their fathers received their education, they could more fully appreciate the fact that they are living in an advanced age—an age of higher and nobler civilization. The world is moving forward, and much of our progress is due to our efficient system of public education of the masses. I rejoice with you to-day that our public schools are on a rising tide. Speed the day when they will be nearer perfect in all respects than they now are as the nineteenth century is disappearing behind the western hills, and the twentieth is dawning in the east. (Applause.)

A word or two, in conclusion, to these ladies who have honored us with their presence here to-day. I am sorry we cannot make Free Masons of them; but we can't do that. (Laugh-

ter.) They, however, are our half-sisters, and we hail them as such. Although we have seen fit not to admit them into our fraternity, we are willing to acknowledge that they, as a rule, are better than the men. A beautiful, chaste woman is the perfect workmanship of God, the true glory of angels, the rare miracle of earth, and the sole wonder of the world. (Loud applause.)

Cato, the Censor, and Hyppolitis hated women, and the world hated them. Women decide and fix the morals of all countries. They reign supreme, because they hold possession of men's passions. The world has always graded civilization by the development of womanhood, and it always will. Women modify and soften the natures of men by gentleness, affection and love. (Applause.)

Washington Irving aptly said, "As the vine twines around the oak and binds its wounds when rifted by the blast of lightning, so woman twines about man, as a comfort and solace, when the dark clouds gather over his home and blast his life and expectations."

A French proverb says: "A woman's tongue is her sword, and she never lets it rust." (Laughter.) I will wager a farthing that the fellow who wrote that proverb or saying, was a pigeon-livered old bachelor. (Loud laughter.) An Arab proverb says, "What a woman wills, God wills." That Arab was nearer right than the Frenchman, from whom I quoted. (Applause.)

My friends, do not misunderstand me. I am not in favor of woman's suffrage, nor am I a friend of the so-called "new woman." I am in favor of real womanhood, because that is right—forever right; but I am opposed to the isms and nonsense of the new-fangled notions of some of our modern women, because to my mind, they are wrong—forever wrong. I believe in the dignity and grandeur of genuine womanhood, and have invariably stood for that principle among my fellow men; but I declare to you, in this presence, that I would rather be a dog, and bay the moon, or a kitten and cry mew, than to raise my voice for crankisms of any kind, and especially the crankisms of the alleged *new woman*. (Applause.) A woman is a queen when she reigns as such, but when she gets out of her sphere, she is not as good as a man. I had rather associate with an old bachelor with a hob-nail liver than one of these new women dressed in men's attire. (Loud laughter.) A teacher one day

asked a class of beginners in the study of English grammar, how many genders there are? A bright boy answered promptly, "Three: masculine, feminine and the new woman." (Loud laughter.)

I delight to see women assert themselves in all the walks of life. When they do a man's work, they are entitled to a man's pay. I believe in all that. An old sailor's wife interpreted her marriage contract in this way: "My husband and I are *one*, and I am the *one*." (Laughter). I do not object so much to those kind of women, and we know that they are quite numerous,—perhaps as numerous as "the leaves that strewed the brooks in Valambrosa." (Laughter). It is the "new woman" that I am standing out against. (Cheers). Still, they are not very numerous, and I am delighted to know that their number is growing beautifully less every day. (Applause). The fad will very soon fade away, and there will still remain the God given womanly woman, who will continue to rule the man in the future as she has done in the past, in such a way that although she leads him, yet he hasn't sense enough to find it out. (Loud laughter). That is the woman of the past, the woman of the present, and the woman of the future,—the kind of a woman whom a sensible man will respect, honor and love.

When a man sees no way out of a difficulty there is always a woman's way. (Laughter).

A woman can achieve more by ten minutes of gentleness than a man can by an hour of violent bluster.

A man seeks and demands a woman's first love. A woman feels most secure when she feels that she has a man's last love. (Laughter).

An honest avowal of love is always considered by a woman whether she reject or accept it, as the highest recognition of her womanhood.

There may be nothing new under the sun. But there are many new things under the moon which we all pretend to see and which nothing would persuade us to speak of. (Laughter).

The purest and best of women always show the deepest and tenderest compassion for their fallen sisters. For a woman to be without sympathy is to be a woman without the highest trait of womanhood. (Applause).

I trust I will not be censured for reciting the following stanzas of doggerel which have somewhat of a bearing upon the subject at hand:



There are women who are comely,  
 There are women who are homely,  
     But be careful how the latter thing you say;  
 There are women who are healthy,  
 There are women who are wealthy,  
     There are women who will always have their way.

There are women who are truthful,  
 There are women who are youthful,  
     Was there ever any woman that was old?  
 There are women who are sainted,  
 There are women who are painted,  
     There are women who are worth their weight in gold.

There are women who are tender,  
 There are women who are slender,  
     There are women very large and fat and red;  
 There are women who are married,  
 There are women who have tarried,  
     There are women who can't talk—but they are dead.  
                                     (Prolonged laughter and applause).

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## THE LEVEL AND THE SQUARE.

*Original Poem by Governor Atkinson, in Response to a Toast  
 with above Title, at a Masonic Banquet, Charleston, W. Va.*

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The Level's a jewel when it levels men up,  
 But not so if it levels them down;  
 And the Mason who levels his life by its gauge,  
 Will be laureled at last with a Crown.

But woe be the man who passes through life,  
 On the level by most men that's trod;  
 'Twere better, far better he'd ne'er been born,  
 Or in Youth he'd been laid 'neath the sod.

Our symbol—the Level—teaches plainly this truth:  
 Men are equal when they all do the right;  
 It exacts from us all, from old age down to youth,  
 A pledge to be just, day and night.

On the level of Truth we should walk as men true,  
 Down the sweep of the years as they fly;  
 Looking up, and not down, as Masons should do,  
 To the mansions of rest in the sky.

On the Level, at last, all Masons must meet,  
 And surrender their trust to the King;  
 Though weary their limbs and tired their feet,  
 To their Ancient, Grand Craft they should cling.

But better than Level is the Right-angled Square,  
 For it teaches greater lessons than Love;  
 By its angle, men's lives are tested as True,  
 In this world and the Home that's above.

Man's a man only, when Square in his acts,  
 And is clean on the inside and out;  
 In the quiet of home, he'll be honored alike,  
 Or on tempest-tossed sea cast about

As sweep the shot-stars adown the domed sky,  
 Shine the lives of the men that are Square;  
 Their deeds, when they're gone, will after them live,  
 And their virtues be cherished as rare.

Though fiery hosts in their cycles may fly,  
 Yet safe from the storm is the life that is Square;  
 And beyond the nebulous field of the sky,  
 Is his Home rich, beautiful and fair.

We'll meet on the Level and act by the Square,  
 As Masons we know it's our duty to do;  
 And the world will be better and brighter and fair,  
 Because we've lived in it, and journeyed life through.

## DECORATION DAY ADDRESS,

*By Governor G. W. Atkinson at the National Cemetery at  
 Grafton, West Virginia.*

[From The Grafton Sentinel ]

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN:—

It was Prentiss, of Mississippi, who was among the most eloquent of men in a Fourth of July oration, many years ago, who said, "My countrymen! I can stand by the far away Penobscot and say my countrymen! I can stand by the rippling waters of Lake Erie and say my countrymen! I can stand under the shadows of the Rocky Mountains and say my countrymen! And here by the 'father of waters' I can say my countrymen! So say I to-day, standing here on the slopes of the Alleghanies beneath the shadows of these hills, rock-ribbed and towering in the sun-light, "my countrymen"! We are citizens of a common heritage,—a land united, girted, and sealed by the blood of the heroes who sleep beneath these green mounds in this, one of the neatest and sweetest of all of our National cemeteries. Our citizenship is not hemmed in by State lines.

On the contrary, like our patriotism, it has the majestic sweep of the continent. (Cheers.)

There are honors that are fleeting. Xerxes crowned his footman in the morning, and beheaded him in the evening of the same day. Andronicus, the Greek emperor, crowned his admiral in the morning and then took off his head in the afternoon. Roffensis had a Cardinal's hat sent to him, but his head was cut off before it came to hand. Most men in position and power in this world are pained to admit the truthfulness of the remark of a certain great king, "Oh, crown thou art more noble than happy!" But, my friends, there are honors which are enduring. There are laurels which never fade. There are monuments which the tooth of time cannot destroy. It is said that the crown of Ivan contains 841 diamonds; that the crown of Peter contains 887 diamonds; that the crown of England contains 1,700 diamonds; that the imperial crown of Russia contains 2,500 diamonds, and the crown of France contains 5,352 diamonds. But there are crowns that outshine all these. The laurel wreaths which are to-day entwined about the tombs of the heroes who sleep in these graves, represent honors, reputation and fame, to us as Americans, more enduring than the diamond crowns of all the kings, princes and potentates of earth. (Loud cheering.)

"Rest on embalmed and sainted dead,  
Dear as the blood you gave;  
No impious footsteps here shall tread  
The herbage of your grave."

My countrymen, the men who sleep in the graves around us to-day are our Nation's wards. While America lives they will not be forgotten. When the May months come, with their charming green, their fragrant flowers, their singing birds, and their babbling brooks, they will ever bring together an admiring throng to do honor to our sleeping braves. No, my friends, our dead soldiers will not be forgotten. These States of ours may forget their law-makers, may forget their jurists, may forget their orators, may forget their poets and their scholars, but they will never cease to cherish the memories of the men who died that the Government might live. We can never forget the times when these men fell. (Applause.) Then it was that a deep fog hung low above our Nation's crest, and doubt in the minds of all dimmed and chilled the day; but an unfalter-



ing love for the true and the good—a desire to perpetuate the homes of the free, under God, nourished a more intelligent and unquestioning faith in the stability of our Governmental institutions. Rebellion died but the Nation lived. (Applause.)

These soldiers came from every section of their country at their country's call, and

Went forth to die—

Pale, earnest thousands from the dizzy mills,  
And sunburnt thousands from the harvest hills;  
Quick, eager thousands from the city streets,  
And storm-tried thousands from the fishers' fleets.

How they went forth to die—

Heeding, yet shrinking not from the hot breath  
Of the fire angel in the front of death,  
Seeing afar yet meeting without fear  
The fever angel lurking in the rear.

How they went forth to die—

Counting their lives as the unvalued dust  
Trodden by a Nation bearing on its trust,  
Content if but their sunken graves should be  
The foot prints of the progress of the free.

As the years go on, my friends, animosities once cherished by the North against the South, and by the South against the North, are rapidly disappearing. There is now but little left of sectional sentimentalism. There should be buried in the same graves our passions with our dead. It is too late, in this age of progress and discovery, for one American to hate another. The past should be, and largely is forgotten in the hopes of the future. (Applause.)

There is not one of us, were he one cloth or the other, came he from the granite hills of new England or the orange groves of the Mississippi Valley, who has not an interest for himself and for his children in the preservation and perpetuation of our republican system. It is a reciprocal as well as a joint interest; and relating to the greatest of human affairs, it ought to be a sacred interest. The most obstinate of partisans, the most untraveled of provincials, can not efface, still less dispute, the story of heroism in war, or moderation of peace, which, written in letters of living light, will blaze forever upon our National tablets. The occasion that brings us here has this significance: it is illustrative; it tells us that we have come to understand that there could be no lasting peace, nor real republicanism, whilst any freeman's rights was abridged or any pa-

triot's grave, unhonored. The freedom of each and every State, of each and every citizen, is at length assured; and there remains no longer so much as a pretext why the glory of the past, marked by the graves of those who fell in battle, should not be the common property of the whole people. The old feudal ideas of treason do not belong to our institutions or our epoch. Their influence in public affairs have been hostile to our National unity and peace. Our future is to be secured by generous concessions, for ours was a war of mistakes, not of disgrace. (Applause.)

At Vicksburg, but a year or two ago, the citizens, after decorating the graves of the Confederates buried in their beautiful cemetery, also scattered garlands of their choicest flowers upon the mounds of the thousands of the Union dead, who near by, beneath the evergreen magnolias, lie in the dreamless sleep of death. A lovely poem, written for the occasion, was read, from which I take the closing stanza:

"Ours the fate of the vanquished.  
Whose heartaches never cease;  
Ours the tears, regrets and fears—  
Theirs the eternal peace.  
Anger they dropped forever  
With the passing burden of breath,  
The Blue and the Gray are alike to-day  
In the colorless land of death,  
And the living who wore the Blue  
May bring to the sleepers flowers,  
For the Blue and the Gray are friends to-day,  
In a happier land than ours." (Applause.)

My friends, I know there are those who ridicule this union of sentiment on Decoration Day. There are those every where who cannot take their neighbors by the hands and call them brothers. I know that there are among us certain of our countrymen whose skins fit their bodies so closely that they cannot breathe without pain. But I thank God to-day that the great bulk of humanity in our land are one in feeling and sentiment. They seem to understand somehow that they are akin. They believe in that broad fundamental Bible doctrine of the unity of God and the brotherhood of man; and about nine hundred and ninety nine out of every thousand of us accept the situation and spell nation with a big N. (Applause.) Sectionalism is being ushered out and Nationalism is being ushered in. We meet here to-day, not as partisans, but as Americans. We may quarrel in our newspapers and during our political campaigns, Re-

publicans with Democrats and Democrats with Republicans; but what of that? On the great question of liberty and union, we are one and inseparable. I hail the day as not far distant when no man can tell where the North ends or the South begins. (Applause.) The blood of the soldiers who fell from '61 to '65 was the seed of a nobler National life, and a germ of fuller National glory. When Richmond fell, the government of our fathers started on a new lease of life, which budding now will ultimately bloom as the greatest, grandest, noblest government of earth. "Oh, America, our native land! Land of invention and discovery, land of glorious mount and beautiful vale: for whom em-purpled hosts have fought and and poets sung; land of genius and of power; land of beauty and of song; land of golden past and boundless future; thou hast come forth from turmoil and from a battle holding in thine arms of might, learning and thought, art and discovery, honor and justice, grouped like stars in a firmament which span man's hope and grave." Land of Washington, of Webster, of Clay, of Lincoln, of Grant; in thy course along the track of time thou hast spread all about our pathway a glorious, imperishable radiance! Let the prayers of all in this presence be, that

"No more shall the warfare sever,  
Or the winding rivers be red;  
They banish our anger forever  
When they laurel the graves of our dead."

Yonder floats aloft our National ensign. We reverence thee to-day, sweet stars and stripes. We reverence thee, because thou art the emblem of an undivided Nation. We reverence thee, because nowhere beneath thy folds can be found the footprint of a slave. We reverence thee, because on land and sea, above freedom's host, thou art freedom's flag. Hail! all hail! glorious banner of the free. Iliads more lasting than Homer's will yet be written which shall ring along the centuries to commemorate the names and the fame of the men who gave up their lives for those stripes and stars. (Loud applause.)

"Sail on, nor fear to breast the sea!  
Our hearts, our hopes, are all with thee,  
Our hearts, our hopes, our prayers, our tears  
Our faith triumphant o'er our fears,  
Are all with thee—are all with thee!" (Prolonged cheering.)



## THREE G'S--GRIT, GET, AND GUMPTION.

*An Address by Governor Atkinson before the Graduating Class  
of the Wheeling Business College.*

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MR. PRESIDENT, YOUNG LADIES AND YOUNG GENTLEMEN:—

I assure you that it is a great pleasure to speak to you to-night upon a subject of my own choosing. My theme is a homely one, but there is perhaps more in it than you may see at a glance or on first blush or thought. I believe it was David, the sweet singer of Israel, who gave utterance to the statement that "we are fearfully and wonderfully made," and I am inclined to the belief that he was correct in his statement. Whether we, in stature and intellectual make-up, are above or below the angels, we know not. We know, however, that we are above the lower animals, because we have intellect, sensibility and will, while they are certainly not endowed with all of these faculties. We also differ from the lower animals in many other important respects. For instance, man is the only animal who has a chin; and it is a painful admission, if we follow the language of the street, that he often uses it too much. Man is the only animal that is two-handed and two-footed. He is the only animal that walks erect; and yet we often see him so thoroughly under the influence of intoxicants that he cannot stand erect and look upon the stars, as his Creator intended him to do. Man is the only being that can laugh. No other animal can indulge in this delightful source of enjoyment; and yet perhaps the majority of us spend a large portion of our time in croaking and grumbling, instead of being joyful, happy and bright. Man is the only animal that shaves his face, or uses a razor with which to slash his fellow man. (Laughter.) He is the only being who wears clothing, or uses tools or machinery of any character or kind. He is the only created being who possesses the capacity to benefit himself by the knowledge or experience of others; and yet thousands of them pass through life, and know comparatively nothing of what is going on around and about them. Man is the only being who has a moral nature, and yet many of them are wholly without mor-

als of any sort. He is the only being that can reason, and it is painfully true that not one in fifty ever even pretends to think for himself. He simply folds his hands, lies supinely on his back and allows someone else to do the thinking for him. (Applause.) He also possesses a will, but rarely calls it into use. The most of us, in short, are only putty men and women, and we fail to leave our impress upon anything we touch. Therefore, when we pass on and over, failure is written upon our grave-stones; and that is the end of us.

Now, my young friends, what do all these things teach us? Being exalted by our Creator above all other creatures of his hand, we are capable of wonderful development and a high grade of usefulness. Man's powers of thought are simply amazing. He ought to be, with the advantages he now possesses, an intellectual and moral giant. We are to-day standing upon the shoulders of our ancestors, and we ought to see farther than if we were standing upon the ground. But candidly, my young friends, how many of us are availing ourselves of all of the educational advantages which environ us to-day? And the same is true of the most of us in a moral and religious sense. The eccentric Sam. Jones was more than half correct when he said, and I think aptly, "that a lot of you little sinners are sitting around waiting for salvation to strike you as it did St. Paul. Snow-birds waiting to be hit with cannon balls. God adjusts his ammunition to the size of the man he is after. Mustard-seed shot will do for you. God won't keep a man sober who has a quart of liquor in him all the time. God won't keep a young lady pious who has her waist encircled seven times a week by the arms of a spider-legged dude." (Loud laughter.)

"We rise by the things that are under our feet;  
By what we have mastered of good or gain;  
By the pride disposed, and the passion slain,  
And the vanquished ills that we hourly meet."

There are, my young friends, on the way through life, many things which we must avoid if we may hope for success; and there are many things we must do to prevent our lives from proving an utter failure. I will mention but three to-night along the line of this latter thought, to-wit: Grit, Get and Gumption, and to a few reflections on these three words, I bespeak your careful attention.

A young man may be born of "blue blood," as they say down

South, may have a great name, may have a gold spoon in his mouth, may have much of this world's goods and its jewels and its diamonds, still if he have not grit he will amount to nothing. Without it a young man may make a first class amber hued dude, but he can never make a book-keeper or a scholar. Without it he may become proficient in street talk and develop into a faithful agent of the city to press bricks on the streets, and warm curbstones with the lower extremity of his overcoat, but I can prove it by your excellent Principal that no one can ever make a superb penman or know how to strike a balance sheet, without patient, earnest application, and lots of it at that. No one has ever become distinguished who spent his time holding curbstone tickets to all public performances which came along, or who sat astride empty dry goods boxes whittling the soft, white pine with a razor-edged jack-knife. (Laughter.) He must have the grit to assert himself, the get up about him to drive ahead, and the gumption to enable him to choose the expedient from the inexpedient—the right from the wrong; and at all times “to look out and not in; look up and not down; look forward and not back, and lend a hand.” (Applause.)

I. I remark, my young friends, first of all, that grit implies *determination*. There is one man known to history, and long illustrious among his fellow men, who in his own meditations had reached the conviction that there was a new world far across the sea, and no disappointment or vexing delay could expell that conviction from his earnest mind. Neither hope deferred, nor the terrors of the deep, nor mutiny, nor the tempest, nor death, could turn Columbus from his resolute purpose. On he pressed in spite of them all—serene amid the tempest—full of hope when all around seemed to tell only of despair; and he stood at last on the shores of a lovely island in the ocean—the discoverer of lands whose grandeur and beauty and fertility have brought mankind together and changed the whole history of the world. (Applause.)

I remark also that it implies *self assertion*, but self assertion is not affrontery, or cheek. O, the gall that some of our modern young men possess! It is strong enough in many instances to stand off a whole minstrel troupe, and bring blushes to the cheek of a life insurance agent or a Bowery auctioneer. (Laughter.) Some of our boys (none of you, of course,) have brass enough to start a bell foundry, and have enough left to braze



the cheeks of a whole company of military cadets. (Loud laughter). This is not self-assertion; nor is self-assertion selfishness. As Mr. Lincoln used to say, this reminds me of a story:

Once upon a time a young couple were going to get married. The day was fixed and the crowd gathered in. It was a delightful company of delightful people. The hour for the ceremony came round. The old spectacled preacher took his position behind a chair on one side of the room, and began the ceremony. By and by when he reached that point in the ceremony wherein it says, "If there is any person present who can show any just cause why this couple shall not be lawfully joined together in holy wedlock, let him now speak, or else hereafter forever hold his peace." For a moment everything was still as death. But the silence was broken by a young man rising in one corner of the room and exclaiming, "Mr. Preacher, I have an objection." Every eye was instantly cast upon him. You could have heard a pin drop on the floor. It was as if the pulse of life stood still, and nature made a pause, an awful pause prophetic of her end. The minister said, "Sir, state your objections." The young man's heart was in his throat; but after three or four terrible efforts, he succeeded at last in making himself heard, "Mr. Preacher, I want the girl myself." (Loud laughter.) That was selfishness. (Applause.)

I will tell you what self-assertion is, my young friends. It means to look out for yourself; to be somebody; to resolve in boyhood that at the age of forty you will be a representative man among your fellows. It means also that if you win a laurel, you shall see to it that no one robs you of it. I wouldn't give the snap of my finger for a boy who, after he earns a place and gets it, lets another come along and shove him aside. (Applause.) That kind of a boy will never amount to a pinch of snuff in the world. If the world is a great wheelbarrow, as Mr. Carlyle likens it to, there is a handle for every one who has a human heart. Get hold of your handle, young man; grasp it securely and push your way through life. Remember that it was resolution which made Empedocles sacrifice himself to the flames of Etna. It was resolution that made Anaxarchus, when his bones were crushed, make sport with his tormentors, and cry out: "Break, break, the carcass of Anaxarchus; but his mind you shall never break." It was resolution that made Reg-

ulus fling himself into the arms of his enemies, and suffer himself to be stung and pricked to death. It was resolution that made Attalus sit down cheerfully in the fiery chair his persecutors had prepared for him, and say: "It's not we that do eat children, but it's you that devour innocent Christians." It was resolution that made Blandina encourage her fellow-Christians, though she was wounded, torn, bruised, racked, and miserably handled. It was resolution that made Job bear his losses and ulcers with invincible magnanimity. It was resolution that made David run through a troop, and leap over walls of amazing highness. In short, it was resolution that made all great men great, and thus caused them to leave their impress upon the times in which they lived and flourished in the world, and it will make you do these things, if you will only try it.

Why not begin to-night as you leave this business school and go out into the world to dig your way through the thorns and briars which will hedge you in on every hand? Without decision of character you will always be in hot water and distress. You want to know at all times what you are, and where you are, and what you are about; you want also to be supremely level-headed at every turn of the road. And right here another anecdote fits in. Tim Finegan was thought to be selling whisky in violation of law. So the prosecuting attorney of the county had another Irishman, who was fond of his cups, summoned before the grand jury to indict Tim. Said the prosecutor, Mr. Moriarty did you ever buy any liquor from Mr. Finegan?" No, sir, your honor, I niver bought awny liquor from Tim Finegan," was the prompt reply. "Well now, Mr. Moriarty, were you not at Mr. Finegan's one night when a barrel of whisky was unloaded out of a wagon, and did you not get some of it, and wasn't it liquor of some kind?" asked the prosecutor. "Yis sir, I was thieare one night and I saw a barrel of something lift theare, and on one head of the barrel was written Tim Finegan, and on the other was the word whisky; but as I didn't git any of it, I couldn't for the life of me tell whither Tim Finegan was in the whasky, or the whasky was in Tim Finegan, or whither they was both in each other." (Loud laughter).

But above everything else Grit means *courage*. Do you know that the world is full of moral cowards? Full of men who are afraid of their shadows; men who are afraid to do right lest it might prove unpopular; men who stand around trembling for

fear they might lose a dollar, or a vote, or an office should they assert their views in relation to many of the great questions which are constantly showing themselves upon the people; men who are standing around with their mouths sealed like a duck on an iceberg, with one leg under his wing, waiting for something good to turn up and bring success, Micawber like without an effort on the part of themselves. (Laughter). What most of us need above everything else is more real, genuine grit and pluck. (Applause).

Mr. Moody tells this story from history: A young man came up with a little handful of men to attack a king who had a great army. The young man only had 500 soldiers; and the king sent a messenger to the young man with instructions to say to him that he need not fear to surrender as he meant to treat him mercifully. The young man in the presence of the messenger, called up one of his soldiers and said: "Take this dagger and drive it to your heart;" and the soldier took the dagger and thrust it into his heart. And calling up another, he said to him, "Leap into yonder chasm;" and the man leaped into the chasm. The young man then said to the messenger, "Go back and tell your king I have 500 men like these. Tell him we will die, but we will never surrender. And tell your king another thing, that I will have him chained with my dog inside of an hour." When the king heard these things he did not dare to meet the 500, and his army fled before him like chaff before the winds; and within 24 hours he had that king chained with his dog. That's *grit*, my friends! (Loud applause.)

Says Oliver Wendell Holmes:

"Be firm! one constant element in luck  
Is genuine, solid old Tuetonic pluck;  
See yon tall shaft; it felt the earthquake's thrill,  
Clung to its base and greets the sunshine still."

II. My second G means Get. The language of the street would express it, "*get-up-and-get*." After all, my young friends, the old couplet is not far wrong,

"It is neither birth, nor wealth, nor state,  
It is get-up-and-get that makes men great."

There are many kinds of "Gets" in the world. Such as, for example, get ahead, get along, get among, get before, get behind, get awake, get asleep, get at, get back, get between, get drunk,



get sober, get caught, get clear, get forward, get near, get home, get up, get down, get in, get out, get off, get licked, and, worst of all, get left. (Laughter.) I hope none of you will get left. Right here let me throw in another one of these important *gets*, lest I might forget it at its proper place; above all, young man, when you get to be 25 years of age, get married. (Laughter.) Very few men ever amount to anything until they get married. And between you and me, without letting it go any farther, I have but little confidence in, and no respect for, a man who is over 25 years of age and in good health, who does not support a wife. (Laughter and cheers.) Still, this is a free country, and you needn't get married unless you want to. And I will also in this quiet, inoffensive way, give notice to all simple-minded young ladies, who are now happy and self-supporting—that is, who can keep books and teach school—that there is no statute I know of which requires them to assume the burdens of wifehood, unless they prefer to do so. (Laughter.) If they now have, as Bill Nye puts it, “An abundance of new clothes and pin money,” they can remain single, if they wish, without violating the laws of the land. (Laughter.) This rule is also good when applied to happy and self-supporting young men, who wear good clothes, ride bicycles, visit skating rinks, and have money in their pockets. No young man who is free, happy and independent however, needs invest his money in a family, and carry a colicky baby seventeen miles and two laps in a single night, and pour down its windpipe three bottles of Mrs. Winslow's soothing syrup, unless he wants to. (Loud laughter.) But with all the drawbacks many of us prefer it, and when we go into it with the right spirit, we do not regret it. (Applause.)

Seriously, my young friends, the “Get” in my text means that you should keep your wits about you, and push things for all that they are worth. In short, it means success.

Admiral Faragut gives the following account of his start in life: “My father was sent down to New Orleans, with the little navy we then had, to look after the treason of Aaron Burr. I accompanied him as cabin boy, and was ten years of age. I had some qualities which I thought made a man of me. I could swear like an old salt; could drink as stiff a glass of grog as if I had doubled Cape Horn, and could smoke like a locomotive. I was great at cards and was fond of gaming in every shape. At the close of the dinner one day, my father turned everybody out

of the cabin, locked the door, and said to me, "David, what do you mean to be?" "I mean to follow the sea." "Follow the sea! Yes, be a poor, miserable, drunken sailor before the mast, kicked and cuffed about the world, and die in some fever hospital in a foreign clime." "No, I said, I'll tread the quarter deck and command, as you do." "No, David; no boy ever trod the quarter deck with such principles as you have, and such habits as you exhibit. You'll have to change your whole course of life if you ever become a man." My father left me and went on deck. I was stunned by the rebuke and overwhelmed with mortification. "A poor, miserable, drunken sailor before the mast, kicked and cuffed about the world, and to die in some fever hospital!" That's my fate, is it? I'll change my life, and change it at once. I will never utter another oath; I will never drink another drop of intoxicating liquor; I will never gamble. And as God is my witness, I have kept these three vows to this hour." (Loud applause.)

Young man, if you want to succeed, you must do exactly as did this great man Farragut. Nothing short of absolute sobriety and absolute decency and absolute trustworthiness can give success. No one has ever attained even temporary ascendancy with a character as loose as a Mother Hubbard dress. (Laughter.)

III. But what of my third G? It stands for an ugly word, but it is significant. You may laugh at it if you want, but I tell you none other in our language has a deeper root of meaning and value to the young people of our land. It stands for honest, unadulterated, old Anglo-Saxon *Gumption*. (Laughter.) It is what all of us need to enable us to steer successfully between the Scylla of flippancy on the one hand and the Charybdis of long faced sobriety on the other. I enjoy dignity, but I everlastingly abhor the old-fashioned solemncholly which required one to lengthen out his face as long a dinner horn, and look as solemn as an owl. (Loud laughter.) But on the other hand when I hear a person cackling, as I often do, over the merest goose-gable I say he lacks gumption. (Laughter.) When I see a young man with pants so tight that he looks as if he had been melted and poured into them, I say he lacks gumption, and so do you. (Laughter.) When I see him walk into a saloon, supporting a plug hat and a rattan cane, and call for "schwy glass beer," as I often see on the streets of Wheeling, I not only

say he lacks gumption, but I say to myself poor fellow, if he doesn't check up, he will sooner or later be lost—lost to himself, lost to his friends, lost to his family, lost to society, lost to his country, lost forever! When I hear young men swearing, profanely, and <sup>have</sup> seen them swaggering idly about, lounging in the shades, spending their sabbaths at park beer gardens, I say they lack gumption, and they know it themselves as well as you and me. But when I see them attending school daily with a good-sized lot of books under their arms; and see them toiling in Colleges like this, in order that they may fit themselves for usefulness, I earnestly declare that they have gumption; and if they persevere they cannot fail to succeed. (Applause.)

I know, Mr. President, that every mind which comes into the world has its own specialty—is different from every other mind; that each of you brings into the world a certain bias, a disposition to attempt something of your own—an aim a little different from that of any of your companions; and that every young man is a failure so long as he does not find what is his bias or bent; that just so long as you are influenced by those around you, so long as you are attempting to do those things which you see others do well, instead of doing that thing which you can do well yourself, you are so far wrong, so far failing of your own right mark. There can be no mistake about this. Then, my young friend, be wise enough at all times to be yourself. (Applause.)

And let me tell you, young men, it is wise to do another thing—use to the very best advantage all the powers and talents which God has given you. Remember that there is a penalty affixed to the non-use of our faculties and abilities, both in nature and grace. The man who, like the fakir in India, refuses to use his arm, will ultimately lose ability to use it. The man who refuses to use his moral faculties, will lose moral strength in the particular faculty which is not exercised. All of our faculties gain strength by exercise, and lose strength by non use. Nobody knows what strength of parts he has till he has tried them. And of the understanding one may most truly say, that its force is greater, generally, than it thinks, 'till it is put to the test. Therefore, the proper remedy here is but to set the mind to work, and apply the thoughts vigorously to the business at hand; for it holds in the struggles of the mind as in those of war, *dum putant se vincere, vicere*. A persuasion that we shall



overcome any difficulties that we meet with in the sciences, seldom fails to carry us through them. No one knows the strength of his mind, and the force of steady and regular application, 'till he has tested them. This is certain; he that sets out upon weak legs will not only go farther, but grow stronger too, than one who, with a vigorous constitution and firm limbs, only sits still. (Applause.)

What a large volume of adventures may be grasped within this little span of life, by him who interests his heart in everything; and who, having eyes to see what time and chance are perpetually holding out to him as he journeys on his way, misses nothing he can fairly lay his hands on! Ipity the man who can travel from Dan to Beersheba, and cry: "'Tis all barren." And so it is; and so is all the world to him who will not cultivate the fruit it offers.

I wish I could engrave this advertisement on your minds, for it means more than words can express:

LOST.—Somewhere between the hours of 7 a. m. and 6 p. m., to-day, two golden hours. No reward is offered, because they are lost forever. (Applause.)

One thought more in conclusion: The wisest life is the one based upon the pilgrim idea of pressing onward and not looking back. Countless lives have been wrecked by back-sights instead of front ones. Many stop by the way because they meet an obstacle of some sort. Such persons get side-tracked by the passing multitudes. Some are never willing to leave their mishaps behind them. There are second chances, my young friends, in life. If we cannot get the first place, let's take the second place. We rise to every summit by stepping over obstacles. We reach the top of a monument by ascending step by step. Elevators are not operated for the benefit of the masses. If in the race of life you wait to be hoisted to the top rung of the ladder, you will be left standing on the ground. Absolutely the three G's I have mentioned are essential to enable you to rise above mediocre men. I thank you for the attention you have given me. (Prolonged applause.)

## STATE SUNDAY SCHOOL CONVENTION.

*Remarks of Governor G. W. Atkinson in Response to an Address of Welcome Extended to the State Sunday School Convention, in Annual Session at Ravenswood.*

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My friends, this is a very pleasant duty for me to perform, and I therefore cheerfully respond to your call on this occasion. I am sure I speak for all these delegates when I say they are profoundly grateful for this very generous reception. I trust that this gathering of Sabbath School toilers will prove profitable alike to both delegates and citizens.

The Sunday School institution, my friends, is only a little over one hundred years old, and yet it numbers millions. The Sunday School Army is one of the best organized bodies on the earth to-day, and it is now only in its infancy as a factor in the effort to uplift the people to higher conceptions of life and duty. Daniel Webster in one of his great speeches said, "The sun rising in the east and sweeping westward never sets on the martial melodies of England." So you can say, my fellow citizens,—you who are engaged in this important work, that the Sunday School Army belts the globe with a golden chain of children and song, and upon it the sun rises and never sets. (Applause). And withal it is only a child in stature yet. It is just beginning to put on a healthy growth. What is now but a rivulet will, by and by, be a Mississippi or an Amazon. It has yet scarcely begun to approach the rim of its possibilities. Therefore what you have seen in its operations is but the presage of its final accomplishments in the years that are to come. (Applause).

Pardon me for giving, in round numbers, a few statistics which, I trust, will be of value to one and all in my hearing to-day: Number of Sunday Schools in the United States, 99,000; number of teachers, 1,100,000; number of scholars 8,000,000. There are 73,000,000 people in the United States. Deduct 15 per cent. for infants, and another 15 per cent. for those that are aged and decrepid, and there will still be left 20 per cent., or

about one-fifth of our entire population connected with Protestant Sunday Schools. To this number add, say a half million of Roman Catholics, and you have a showing of which you as Sunday School workers, should justly be proud. It is plainly to be seen that this work has already attained a magnitude which fifty years ago, none would have believed it was possible for it to ever reach. (Loud cheers).

We have our sects and denominations, and yet, as this gathering and the one at Chicago a short time ago prove, all sects are one in aim and purpose and work. You are to-day, all over the Christianized world, using the same lessons, and largely the same methods and the same helps. You are all in the same boat, and are striving for the same shore. As you are marching forward in this great work you are touching elbows, you feel the thrill of kindred hearts, and cords of sympathy and affection vibrate from one to another as you are journeying through the world. (Applause.) This working together does much to promote a Union of Christians in all branches of religious undertakings and endeavors; and after all, if you are true Christians, the questions upon which you differ are of but small consequence. Occasions like these therefore cannot fail to make you love one another more as brethren and friends.

The renowned Rev. Dr. Broadus, in discussing the question of Christian unity, used this homely but forceful illustration: "I often," said he, "remember how, in my boyhood, on the old plantation in Virginia, there occurred this little incident: We hauled our produce forty miles to the market town, and one day the wagon came back with three instead of four horses, and I ran out—a boy of ten years or so—to ask the driver, an old family servant, about it. He said that the old horse was dead, and went on to tell me how he hauled out old Dobbin's body into the woods by the roadside; and the next morning old Mike was gone, and he did not know what to make of it, because he could always trust that old horse—never did tie him up—but he was gone. And he looked and looked, and there was old Mike standing over old Dobbin's dead body, looking down upon him as if he loved him. And the driver said it was all he could do to drag him away, because, you see, those old horses had worked together so many years, they pulled together, and I suppose they got to love each other because they always worked together. Oh! Christian people, the dumb brutes that



perish learn to love one another by working together, and shall not we?" (Applause.)

One of the grandest pageants I ever saw, or expect to see this side of heaven, was twenty thousand Sabbath School children in Brooklyn, a few years ago, on their annual "May Day March," bearing garlands and banners, and a million people looking on. That was union, with a big U, love with a big L, and sympathy with a big S. I said to myself, as the procession passed, although I am doing but little in the way of work, yet I belong to that army, and gave a large portion of my time, for more than a quarter of a century, to arm and equip it for successful and proper service. (Applause.)

My friends, only since the Christ came into the world has children been considered worthy of the especial care of the adult people. When he opened his loving arms, and said, "Suffer little children to come unto me, and forbid them not, for of such is the kingdom of heaven," he struck a cord that has rung down the centuries, and will ring along the ages forever. But while this is true, it is a strange fact that only a little over a hundred years have passed since the children were first organized into a Sabbath School, and work was begun upon them to induce them in childhood to become religious. I have often wondered why men had not long before discovered that the character and destiny of a Nation can be fashioned and shaped by the training of the children. Twenty-five years hence, the youth of to-day will control the business and the politics of this great Republic. Is it not the duty, then, of all Christian workers, to not neglect the proper training of the children?

A distinguished Catholic priest once said, "If I can have the control of the children of America until they are ten years old, Protestants may take them after that." He meant, of course, that he could shape their minds the first ten years of their lives in such a way that no power on the earth could change them from the Roman Catholic religion. (Cheers.)

A father and child were one day passing through a woodland, and they came upon a very gnarled and crooked tree. The father asked the boy if he could tell what bent the tree into that peculiar shape? The little fellow promptly replied: "Somebody tramped on it, when it was a little fellow." That boy was a philosopher. He understood a twig could be bent, but a tree never.

"The pebble in the streamlet scant  
Has changed the course of many a river,  
A dew drop on the baby plant  
Has warped the giant oak forever."

Horace Mann once said, "Suppose all the conditions of the education of children—all the moral and physical conditions were correct, what per cent, of the youths would grow up to be the right kind of men and women?" His own reply was, "Ninety-five per cent;" and doubtless he was correct. Now, if this is true of the body, what of the soul? If you as Sabbath School workers take the plastic child and educate it for the Christ, may you not hope and expect that ninety-five out of every hundred of them will grow up to manhood and womanhood so deeply grounded in "the faith" that all the powers of earth and darkness cannot switch them from the path of duty in the future? (Loud Applause).

In the large cities they raise massive brick blocks of buildings right up from the ground, and place a new story underneath. So, within a hundred years, men and women imbued with the spirit of the Master, when he called the little children to him, and told the disciples to "forbid them not," have lifted up the grand edifice of the Christian Church in the world,—lifted it up from the ground,—and placed a story underneath, and that story is the Sunday School, the real nursery of the Church. The primary aim therefore of the Sabbath school teacher is to induce his scholars to become Christians. A genuine teacher is truly "a fisher of men." (Applause.)

If the world is to be changed, regenerated, redeemed, it can only be done by Christian men and women teaching the truths of the Gospel directly to the children. (Applause.) It was the immortal Richter who said, "It is the truth of the Lord Jesus Christ that has turned the channels of the centuries out of their course and thrown empires off their hinges." The Gospel of the Christ is therefore the hope of the world. Good singing, good music, harmonious action, and the like, are desirable in the Sunday School work, but after all the study of the Word—powerful, simple, soul-saving—is the main thing. It is the "Sword of the Spirit" that severs the right from the wrong; in that it makes the way of duty plain to all. Some one has said that what the sun is to the solar system, the Bible is to Society. They are both light-bearers, they are both comforts to the world. Therefore, my friends, you should teach it, not so much

for intellectual development as for spiritual enlightenment; not so much for mind food as soul food, and this will make you true "fishers of men." (Applause.)

I read somewhere recently of a free concert that was given many years ago in Castle Garden, New York. There was a great gathering of the best musical talent of that wonderful city. Men and women were there who could sing in the German, and the French, and the Italian, and the Spanish, and, indeed, many other languages. It was noticed that when the singers were rendering a piece of music in the German, none but the Germans were interested; and when they sang in French, none but the French seemed to care anything about what was going on; and so it was with the Spanish, and the Italian, and the English. But when the Swedish nightingale, Jennie Lind, who was present, arose and began to sing as only she could; throwing into song all the emotions of a musical heart, all eyes at once fell upon her, and when she sang, "Home, Sweet Home," that mighty throng, the representatives of many nations, in almost every language under heaven, joined in the singing until the building shook with the melody of that song of all others nearest and dearest to every human heart. (Applause.)

So it may be with you to-day, my friends. You may represent other nations than our own America; you may speak for many churches and creeds; at times you may be narrow and often unconcerned while others are carrying on the work; you may be strangers to one another, for you are all pilgrims and sojourners on the earth; but there is a time when a chord is struck that goes home to every one that has a human heart, when all can unite as with one language and one voice—

"All hail the power of Jesus' name,  
Let angels prostrate fall,  
Bring forth the royal diadem,  
And crown Him Lord of all."

(Prolonged applause.)



## WEST VIRGINIA'S TWO "WAR SENATORS."

*Letter of the Governor to Judge John Brannon, of Weston.*

State of West Virginia,  
Executive Chamber,  
Charleston, December 2, 1899.

Hon. John Brannon,  
Weston, W. Va.,

MY DEAR JUDGE:—

I have carefully read your very able brief covering the point of the legality, or rather illegality, as you express it, of the right of our two West Virginia War Senators to cast their votes for the Hon. N. B. Scott for a Senator in Congress from West Virginia.

I have only a few moments, at this time, to dictate a reply to your courteous letter accompanying your brief.

While your argument is able and ingenious, it, at the same time, seems to me to be inapplicable for several important reasons:

1st. The services rendered by these two Senators to their country, in the hour of its need, were in no wise, as I see it, *incompatible* with the services they were expected to render their constituents, after they had taken the oaths of office as State Senators.

2nd. The services they expected to render their country was only a volunteer service, and was therefore only temporary.

3rd. Being officers in said voluntary service, they could at any time resign their positions so as to return to their homes and serve their constituents as State Legislators.

4th. They did resign, came home, and resume their duties as Legislators.

5th. Their right to sit as senators was questioned by Democratic members, and the Senate, a body under our State Constitution which has the right to judge of the "election, returns and qualifications of its own members," after mature debate, decided, as its records show, that they were duly elected members of the body, and therefore had a legal and indubitable right

to sit as members thereof; and more than that they did sit and did vote as such members.

While, as you contend, that a Captaincy or a Lieutenantcy in the volunteer service of one's country in response to a call of its President, is a "lucrative office," yet how can you avail yourself of such contention, unless you can show that such volunteer service was *incompatible* with service in the Legislature, when not only the conditional facts in law, as well as the *actual facts themselves*, are directly against your contention? These Senators only volunteered temporarily. They only served temporarily. They resigned their respective so-called offices. They promptly returned to their homes. They appeared at the opening of the Legislative session. They answered to their names on first roll call. The question was raised as to their right to sit as members. It was duly considered; and the Legislative body to which they belonged, by an "aye and nay" vote, decided that they, having been duly elected by the people, had a legal and just right to sit as members. They sat. They voted. How, then, can the Senate of the United States go behind the action of the State Senate of West Virginia, and in any way known to law or precedent, question their right to so sit and vote?

Upon this one great point, the question you raise hinges, and it seems to me that you will be promptly overruled, notwithstanding the ability you show as a great lawyer, and the many citations you give to sustain your contentions, which do not apply directly to the main point at issue, but only apply in a subsidiary way.

I confess, however, that there is much in what you say as to what is a "lucrative office;" and there is also something in your contention that the word "eligible," or rather the question of *eligibility* for these two Senators to sit as State Legislators could only apply to the time or occasion when they first presented their credentials as members after their elections to said offices. Nevertheless the question of eligibility was raised at the second session of the Legislature as to their right to sit as legal members of the Senate at that time, and that honorable body, by the exercise of its right—at any time—to pass upon that question, decided that they were legal and lawful members of the body, and being such they had the legal right to vote for whom they pleased for a Senator in Congress. They voted for Mr. Scott. They had a lawful right so to do, and the

Senate of the United States cannot go behind such decision; nor has it ever done so, except in two instances (as I understand it) and those were cases where there were two Legislatures, each claiming to be the real Legislative body of the two respective States.

This thought has just occurred to me: Suppose the President of the United States issues a draft in time of war for citizens within certain ages—18 to 45. And suppose, say a majority of the members of a State Legislature were within said prescribed age, and they were regularly conscripted. And suppose further that they entered the army under said order; and suppose still furthermore that many of these Legislators were commissioned as Captains, Lieutenants etc. The war lasts but a few months. These officers and soldiers return to their homes, long before the Legislative body to which they belong is required to meet in general session. According to your contention, none of them would be eligible to sit as Legislators, because they had held "*lucrative offices*" under the Government of the United States, and for that reason they had forfeited their positions as Legislators, and could not therefore sit as members of a Legislative body to which they had been lawfully elected. If your theory is correct, a State, in this way, could be totally robbed of its Legislature, notwithstanding the fact that all of the duly elected members were present and ready for duty? This is by no means an overdrawn *supposition*, my dear Judge.

I confess, Judge, that I read your brief with a good deal of interest, but as I said before, you will be overruled by the Senate.

Cordially and truly yours,

G. W. ATKINSON.

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## WEST VIRGINIA'S OUTLOOK FOR 1900.

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EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT  
CHARLESTON, WEST VIRGINIA.

January 19, 1900.

THE CINCINNATI POST,  
Cincinnati Ohio.

The increase of business of all kinds in West Virginia, during 1899 over the preceeding year is simply wonderful. Our great-



est resources of wealth are coal, coke, oil, gas and timber. Our production of coal in 1899 was, in round numbers, nineteen million long tons. In coke, two and one-quarter million tons. We took third place from Ohio last year among the coal States, and will take second place from Illinois within twelve months. We have held second place to Pennsylvania in coke for several years. We expect to take first place in this product from Pennsylvania within the next few years, for the reason that our coal coking area is much greater than Pennsylvania's. We produced, in round numbers, last year, nineteen million barrels of white sand oil; and a new oil territory is being discovered every few weeks. It now looks as though the larger portion of our 25,000 square miles of area is underlaid with pools of carbon oil.

Lumber camps have increased marvelously during the past ten or twelve months. Thousands of men are employed in the cutting of our splendid timber into lumber, and the song of the saw is heard along almost every hillside. We have yet remaining about eight million acres of virgin forests. Our iron, steel and nail mills have been running double time for many months. We are building several new railroads, and, on the whole, it is difficult to get a sufficiency of laborers at good wages to supply the demand. It seems as though everybody is employed, and the great bulk of our people are prosperous and happy. The outlook for this year is very encouraging in all lines of business. Unless the unforeseen happens, West Virginia's growth the present year can scarcely now be estimated. Our population is increasing rapidly. Railroads cannot furnish cars to haul the freight from our coal mines. Iron mills are greatly behind with their orders, and the lumbermen cannot supply the demands upon them.

Our farmers find ready sale, at big prices, for all of their products. A large portion of West Virginia is grazing territory, and our cattle men are doing splendidly.

We have a good climate, no malaria, no grasshoppers, no mosquitoes, no cyclones, no long winters, taxes reasonable, no State debt, and already over one million of population, and we have just fairly started into business. The prospects for growth and development generally, throughout the entire State, were never so encouraging as now.

G. W. ATKINSON.

## ORATION

*By Hon. George W. Atkinson, P. G., at the Unveiling of the  
Monument, to the Memory of Past Grand Master Thomas  
G. Steele, at Grafton, West Virginia.*

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BRETHREN OF THE INDEPENDENT ORDER OF ODD FELLOWS, LA-  
DIES AND GENTLEMEN:—

“We shape ourselves the joy or fear  
Of which the coming life is made,  
And fill our future's atmosphere  
With sunshine or with shade.

“The tissue of the life to be  
We weave with colors all our own,  
And in the field of destiny  
We reap as we have sown.

“Still shall the soul around it call  
The shadows which it gathered here  
And, painted on the eternal wall,  
The past shall reappear.

“Think ye the notes of holy song  
On Milton's tuneful ear have died?  
Think ye that Raphael's angel throng  
Has vanished from his side?

“Oh, no! we live our life again:  
Or warmly touched; or coldly dim,  
The pictures of the past remain—  
Man's works shall follow him.”

It is believed that the most ancient monuments erected by man to mark his transient passage on the earth, such as the pyramids of Egypt and the temples of Meroe, do not reach beyond fifty or sixty centuries into the past. Memorial tablets, therefore, if regarded in a material sense, are perishable and fading. The skeleton which the corals secreted during life remains an almost indestructible record of their existence; for while, with rare exceptions, the bones of the higher animals vanish after a few years from the surface of the earth, the stone polyp, firmly rooted to the spot which it occupied while alive, marks the lapse of centuries, and seems to bid defiance to all time.

The works, therefore, of insignificant insects are far more enduring than any similar product of the hand of man. But, my brethren, there are monuments that are enduring. There are shafts that the tooth of time cannot destroy. There are foundations, which men build, that the plowshare of the ages cannot break up. There are mausoleums that will live forever. They are, however, not of stone, or marble, or granite, or bronze, or brass. They are works, and deeds, and toils, and tears. They are names enshrined in the hearts of men. They are men that spend their lives in elevating their fellows; in dealing out charity to the needy; in lifting up the fallen; in drying the tears of the widows and the orphans. In short, men that spend their lives in making the world better, and nobler, and grander because of their having lived in it. These, my friends, are monuments that will stand when all others shall have crumbled into dust, and passed away forever.

Beneath the flags of the crypt of St. Paul's Cathedral, in London, rests the body of the great architect, Sir Christopher Wren. On the slab above was written these words: "Reader, wouldst thou behold his monument, look about you." So say we to-day. If you would behold the deeds of him whose monument we unveil this hour, and the great Order which he represented and adorned, *look around you*. His were not particularly deeds of greatness, but rather were they deeds of kindness, faithfulness and devotion. Not heroic acts in the sense of winning laurels through danger or through blood, but acts of gentleness, and above all, acts which demonstrated that there were men in the world, and that there are now men in the world, that could and can be implicitly trusted. And, after all, my brothers, is it not wisest to try to do right and be true to all our trusts, and loyal to those we represent, even if we fail to reach exalted positions among our fellows, than to attain distinction and fame at the expense of truth, virtue and right? In my judgment we err, indeed seriously err, when we struggle for position at the expense of integrity. We err when we strive for a standing before the world, if to go up ourselves we should pull others down. We err in trying to build up a great name, if to accomplish it we should sacrifice virtue. I tell you, my brethren, here to-day in this solemn presence, that true greatness is true goodness. He is not truly great who is not truly good. His name will live longer among men who spent his life in dispensing sunshine and



charity among his fellows, than he who filled the most exalted positions at the expense of those virtues on which the wicked frown, and the upright cherish and support.

My friends, we meet here to-day amid these solemn surroundings to honor the memory of a departed brother, who when living was a tall cedar in our beloved Order. We meet to unveil the monument erected by this Grand Lodge to perpetuate, as far as marble and granite can do it, the name, the deeds, the works, the merit, the character, the life of Past Grand, Past Grand Secretary, Past Grand Master, Thomas Gregg Steele, who departed this life with the harness of Odd Fellowship upon him, April 15, 1883; and here beneath this shaft, on this beautiful hilltop, where God's sunshine falls all the day, we buried him. Here he will rest in the quiet sleep of death, until in God's good time the grave shall give up its dead, and he shall enter into that nobler mansion, that house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.

Our departed brother, Thomas G. Steele, was born in Fermensy parish, near Maghera, county Derry, Ireland, November 4, 1804. His parents were moral and religious. His early training, therefore, was in the channel in which his parents walked. He was fairly educated in the schools of that locality, and being a man of industrious and persevering habits, he pursued a rigid course of reading and study all through life. August 18th, 1836, he was united in marriage with Miss Anna McMurray, in the city of Lengen. It proved a happy union. This good woman died about a year before her husband, and from the shock of her removal he never recovered. She crossed the river a little in advance, and he was never reconciled to life without her associations. Being an earnest toiler and weary from earth's labors, like Bishop Haven said he would do, when he reached the "shining shore", after thanking the blessed Lord for his salvation, he too will hunt up his sainted wife, place his head in her lap and rest from toil's harassments for a thousand years.

Life is made up of small things which hourly occur as men pass through the world; and these little acts reveal the inward nature of men, and furnish the keys to their true history. It is in the home life, more than in any other place, where is revealed the stuff out of which men are made, rather than in those crises which are considered the usual tests of a man's make up

as they are written in brilliant feats in the lightning's glare across the skies. The gentle deeds of kindness strewn along life's pathway leave behind them a halo of light that will shine longer than the greatest speeches of the world's most gifted orators. The little boy who discovered the water breaking through the dykes in the lowlands of Holland and promptly stopped the leak with clay, revealed a nobler manhood than brave Winkelreid, who, at the head of the Swiss army, cried, "Make way for liberty," and rushing upon the bayonets of the enemy, made way for liberty and died. The noble Scotch peasant girl, (Margaret Graham) who refusing to renounce her religion, was by Claverhouse's order tied to a stake on the seashore and was overwhelmed by the tide, showed a finer fiber and a braver record than that of Chambronne when he shouted to the British, "the guard dies, but never surrenders." The watchman at Pompeii, buried at his post by the molten lava which ran down from the crater of Vesuvius, tells the Roman story in grander language than the ruins of the Colliseum; and brave Herndon on the deck of his ship, doing all he could to save his crew, choosing death to dishonor, is a grander picture of true heroic temper than that of Julius Caesar leading his legions to victory, or the conquering Corsican at the Bridge of Lodi. Ah, friends! among the quiet workers in the world are heroes worthy the emulation of true men and women everywhere. The basis of heroism is unselfishness. The man or the woman who truly and faithfully carries out this command of Scripture: "Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you," is God's true hero, and man's best guide on earth.

I believe our departed brother was just such a man as that. His brother, the Rev. Samuel Steele, D. D., who knew his inner life better than any of us, in talking to me on the subject, said: "He was one of nature's noblemen—kind-hearted, loving and trustful as a child; yet firm as a rock to the truth and the right. He was loyal to the country of his adoption, and as an Odd Fellow, he was always true to the principles of Friendship, Love and Truth." I believe every word of this to be true; and you, my brethren, I know, also believe every word of it to be true. It must now be evident to all that our brother was guided through life by the thought that

“Every sower must one day reap  
From the seed that he has sown  
How carefully, then, it becomes us to keep  
A watchful eye on the seed,  
To sow what is good; that we may not weep  
One day, to receive our own.”

Tired of the customs of the Old World, Brother Steele and his family came to this country, landing at New York in April, 1845, and at Fairmont, this State, in July of the same year. Here he resided until the spring of 1874, when he removed to Grafton, where he remained until our Supreme Grand Master called him from labor in the lodge below to rest forever in the Grand Lodge beyond the skies. To him and his wife were born a large family that grew up to be worthy men and women who are esteemed and respected by all who know them.

Before leaving Great Britain, Brother Steele united with the Church of England, always proving himself a worthy member, and he loyally remained in its communion until the day of his death.

March 15, 1845, Marion Lodge No. 64, I. O. O. F., was organized by Past Grand Master Luther Haymond under the jurisdiction of Virginia. Our departed Brother Steele was one of its charter members, and as its representative at Richmond, April 14, 1851, he received the Past official degrees in the Grand Lodge of Virginia. He again represented his Lodge in 1855 and 1857, and was appointed and installed Grand Marshal in the Grand Lodge of Virginia by Grand Master Thomas J. Evans, in 1858. He was chosen Grand Warden in 1860, and Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Virginia in April, 1861. Every Odd Fellow of our day knows full well that out of all the distinguished men that made up the Grand Lodge of our mother State, it was a great honor to be selected to fill the highest office in its gift. The rapid advancement Brother Steele made in passing the chairs of the Grand Lodge is evidence of his ability as a man and his high standing as an Odd Fellow. It was at the beginning of our late fratricidal war that Brother Steele was placed in the Grand Master's chair. And I am free to admit to-day that if the teachings, the counsel and the spirit of our Order had ruled in the minds and hearts of the people of our country at that time, war's rude blasts would never have been sounded to drown the voice of white-robed fraternity and peace.



But this was not to be, and before the time had come for the next annual communication of the Grand Lodge of Virginia, a wall of bristling bayonets stood between Richmond and the mountain home of the worthy Grand Master. War is at all times dreadful, but our late civil war combined in its progress all the elements and instrumentalities that make it most dreadful. Among these was the separation of the members of our friendly Order, between whose hearts and homes the three-linked golden chain of Friendship, Love and Truth was severed by the sword.

Although sorely grieved and dismayed, Grand Master Steele was not cast down. On the western slopes of the Alleghenies he could still see the watch fires of our lodges amid the general darkness and gloom. These fires he visited and rekindled with his zeal and counsel, as chance afforded him opportunity. He was put over them as a good shepherd by the Grand Lodge of the United States, until, largely through his own action and intelligent efforts, our own Grand Lodge of West Virginia was instituted, when he was elected its first Grand Secretary, which office he filled and adorned, with but one short interval, until removed by death.

My friends, it is certainly comforting to those who now survive to have a dear friend leave behind him so delightful and clean a record as our departed friend. And it is comforting also to have so exalted a standing as did our departed brother, in an institution like the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. A large part of his life was devoted to the work of this Order, whose two-fold aim, from its origin, has been to bring all men into a closer union with one another, and to relieve their wants in times of sorrow and distress. How grand was his work in this respect! How exalted the character of a man who lives out in his daily walks, as well as in his teachings and his works, those God-given principles of Friendship, Love and Truth.

It has always seemed to me that there is a brotherhood in Nature. How strong the ties between our hearts and the fields, the flowers, and the trees. How near are our relations to the green things that wither and the bright and beautiful ones that die. The faded violet is the fragrant memory of the sweet babe who early drooped and died. The still, unscattered dust of the flower which fades in June, brings to our remembrance the fair form who was suddenly breathed upon by some mysterious

emissary, and passed away in its noon. Another falls from the tree of life like that sere leaf in autumn. In the woods in winter, when the earth is crowned with the leaves of the trees then bare and forlorn, we cannot be long alone. Visions and associations will gather unwittingly around us. Departed forms and almost forgotten faces will rise like shadows from the grave. These almost forgotten faces will come forth from the shadows of the past and bear witness, which, like monumental inscriptions on the pavement, the feet of traffic are continually defacing, but which the sweep of the years renders again clear and legible: "All flesh is as grass: the grass withereth and the flower fadeth;" but the brotherhood and fellowship of man will endure forever.

Let me ask, if you please, what are some of the principles that this institution of Odd Fellowship teaches which our departed brother loved so well? Go ask that brother who has fallen in the pathway of life, whose plans have miscarried, and who finds himself weighed down by the burdens of care and distress. God knows, my brethren, the world is filled with such men to-day. You see them lying all about you. Ninety-two per cent. of all the men who engage in business of all kinds fail. It seems to be a part of the divine plan. Go ask one of these men what this Order teaches, and he will tell you it teaches him that all true brothers will endeavor to lift him up, to remove the obstacles from his pathway, and assist him in bearing the burdens anew under which he had to go down. To such an one there is in Odd Fellowship something more than mere ceremonies. There is in it an invisible tie which links mankind together in one great family of friends and brothers. Ask the Odd Fellow's widow what it teaches; ask his orphan what it teaches; ask the sick brother what it teaches; ask the wanderer in a strange land what it teaches; and ask the brother who has erred and fallen, who comes back weeping before the altar of his lodge, confesses his waywardness, and is again taken by the hand and welcomed as a brother,—ask him what it teaches. Ask those who have been blessed in the accumulation of wealth,—ask them if it does not insist that they shall share their property with the helpless, and thus, without injury to themselves, relieve the wants of many of their needy associates who have been less fortunate in the world.

But above everything else, my friends, it teaches Brotherly

Love. I once read an incident which was vouched for as true by a missionary from Africa. Said he:

“While traveling through the southern portion of that dark continent, I observed two lepers in a corn-field not far from a hospital or pest-house. One of them had no limbs, the other no arms. The one with no legs was sitting astride the shoulders of the one with no arms. Upon the back of the former was a bag of seed corn, which he was dropping in a furrow; while the one with no arms was walking, carrying his load, and covering up the grain with his feet.”

Thus the two cripples, by this unity of action, made a perfect man. Such a union of forces should be, and usually is, the aim of the Brotherhood to which we belong. In it all members are taught to have a constant care for one another's welfare, thus cultivating a disposition to unite, to love, to cherish, and to help one another along in the great battle of life.

May I add that the lesson of this hour is for all of us to be true to all those essentials which make up real manhood, as was our brother whose memory we honor to-day. Let us emulate his example in the practice of those virtues which adorned his life and character; and let us all labor as earnestly as we can for the triumph of that nobler civilization which Odd Fellowship teaches, and which we regard as the basis of good morals and good government everywhere.

“There's a good time coming, brothers,  
A good time coming;  
We may not live to see the day,  
But earth shall glisten in the ray  
Of the good time coming.  
Cannon balls may aid the truth,  
But thought's a weapon stronger;  
We'll win the battle by its aid—  
Wait a little longer.

“There's a good time coming, brothers,  
A good time coming;  
The pen shall supercede the sword,  
And right, not might, shall be the lord,  
In the good time coming.  
Worth, not birth, shall rule mankind,  
And be acknowledged stronger;  
The proper impulse has been given;  
Wait a little longer.

“There's a good time coming, brothers,  
A good time coming;  
Hateful rivalries of creeds  
Shall not make their martyrs bleed



In the good time coming,  
Religion shall be shorn of pride  
And flourish all the stronger;  
And Charity shall trim her lamp;  
Wait a little longer.

“There’s a good time coming, brothers,  
A good time coming;  
The people shall be temperate  
And shall love instead of hate  
In the good time coming.  
They shall use, and not abuse  
And make all virtue stronger;  
The reformation has begun,  
Wait a little longer.

“There’s a good time coming, brothers;  
A good time coming;  
Let us add it all we can—  
Every woman, every man—  
The good time coming  
Smallest helps, if rightly given,  
Make the impulse stronger,  
’Twill be strong enough one day;  
Wait a little longer.”

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## GOVERNOR ATKINSON’S OPINION OF “THE GOLDEN RULE.”

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EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT  
CHARLESTON, WEST VIRGINIA.  
January 20, 1900.

THE DAILY TRIBUNE,  
Chicago, Ill.

GENTLEMEN:—

I agree with Mr. Carroll D. Wright that the surest and safest solution of the labor problem lies in a thorough understanding between the employer and the employee. But just how to bring about this proper understanding has proved to be a difficult problem. I have always held that arbitration and co-operation cannot fail of success if honestly handled by both sides of all controversies.

1. As to your first inquiry as to what is contained in the “Golden Rule,” I beg to say that it means that every man

shall deal honestly with every other man. If every citizen will gauge his conduct in life by the plumb line of truth and honesty, the golden age will have been ushered in.

2. I most emphatically say that the Golden Rule should be followed and practiced at all times—in the home, in society, and in business. If every man will do unto others as he would have them do unto him, he cannot be other than Christ like in his make-up; and, if this were done, all troubles of every kind would pass away.

3. If the teachings of the Golden Rule were practiced by all classes, there certainly could be nothing but harmony among all the working forces of mankind.

4. I believe great progress has been made along the lines of arbitration, co-operation, and mutual responsibility between capital and labor during the past quarter of a century. I confidently believe that these will be the lines that will be generally and universally, I may say, adopted for the adjustment of all controversies and difficulties between capital on the one hand and labor on the other.

5. Under no circumstances would I object to having the Golden Rule taught in the public schools. On the contrary, I would insist that it should be taught in all schools of every grade and character, and in the home life as well.

6. The best way that I can think of popularizing the Golden Rule is (1) by teaching it to the children in our public schools, and (2) by men in high places, and in all businesses, practicing it in their daily walks and conversations.

The man who refuses to adhere to the Golden Rule is an enemy to himself, to good government, to good society, and to the Christian religion.

Very respectfully yours,

G. W. ATKINSON,

Governor of West Virginia.

## GOVERNOR ATKINSON'S OPINION AS TO METHOD OF CHOOSING UNITED STATES SENATORS.

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EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,  
CHARLESTON, WEST VIRGINIA.  
January 25, 1900.

(Special Telegram.)

THE NEW YORK HERALD,  
New York City, N. Y.

I believe I can safely say that a very large majority of the voters of West Virginia favor the election of United State Senators by the people, instead by the Legislatures. For many years, I have adhered to the present method of electing U. S. Senators, for the reason that it was the evident intention of the framers of the Constitution to remove the choosing of U. S. Senators as far as possible from the people, as a safeguard against spontaneous and improper legislation; but, of late, I am inclined, for reasons which I cannot here explain, to the belief that Senators should be chosen by the people. My experience, covering many years in political matters, justifies the statement that the people can be fully trusted in all respects.

G. W. ATKINSON,  
Governor of West Virginia.

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## TRIBUTE

*To the Rev. Richard Anderson Arthur, A. B., A. M., By Governor Governor G. W. Atkinson, Ph. D.*

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(From the Pittsburg Christian Advocate.)

The subject of this sketch passed to his heavenly home November 11, 1899, after having served the Church as a Gospel minister for almost a full half century. The memory of the just



is ever blessed. "Let me die the death of the righteous, and my last end be like his." The life of this eminent devine was a heroic one. Born in what is now Webster County, West Virginia, during the first quarter of the century that is now grandly rolling out, of poor parentage, and where public school houses were unknown, he was sorely handicapped in his early years. But possessing a longing desire for an education, a friend in Nicholas county furnished him the necessary funds, and he entered the Ohio University, at Athens, where he remained until he graduated in the classical course. In the meantime he was licensed as a minister in the M. E. Church, and during vacations he earned what he could by preaching and teaching. The first thing he did after graduation, was to refund the money that had been loaned to him, and which helped him through the University. This stamped him as an honest man. Burns therefore was supremely right when he said, "An honest man is the noblest work of God;" thus Professor Arthur maintained his integrity to the last, and always used his best endeavors to help his fellow men.

After returning to his Virginia home, he become principal of the Northwestern Academy at Clarksburg, where he remained for several years, teaching during week days, and preaching every Sabbath, and often during school days, and was a pronounced success in both of these callings.

He next entered the traveling connection, and grew rapidly as a minister of the Word. It was not long until he took high rank, revealing unusual pulpit powers and ability. After preaching several years, he was elected professor of mathematics at his Ohio *alma mater* where he remained, if I remember correctly, eight years. Feeling that his true calling was the pulpit, he again entered the West Virginia Conference, and served the best churches and as Presiding Elder also until his health gave way some ten or more years prior to his death. As a superannuated member of the Conference, he preached more or less up to almost the time that he entered into rest in the sweet, unending summer land of song.

The Psalmist said: "When I consider Thy heavens the work of Thy fingers—the moon and stars which Thou has ordained, what is man that Thou art mindful of him, or the son of man that Thou visitest him? Thou has made him a little lower than the angels! Thou has crowned him with glory and honor!" He

crowned Professor Arthur with the glory and honor to weigh, measure and trace the movements of the myriad worlds that flash like diamond dust in the evening sky; to read the history of this world, as revealed in the indurated leaves of the rock-ribbed earth; to analyze the elements of nature, learn their substance and powers, and subject them to his use and pleasure, and, in the grandeur of his thought and achievements, to approach the great fountain of all truth. Thus Brother Arthur's scholarship enabled him to delve deeply into the mysteries of the Gospel. I knew him well, and I can truly say that, although somewhat uneven in his pulpit efforts, he was, nevertheless, a great preacher. At times he swept both earth and sky, and swayed the people at his will. It would be unjust to say less of him than this. I cannot describe his style of preaching better than by a trip I once took down the great St. Lawrence river on a steamboat. Gently the boat moved out into the massive stream. Soon the river widened into broad, deep and placid waters, and the boat, like a thing of life, glided over its gentle and unruffled surface. The banks and the islands were filled with delightful visions of villas, towns and cities, and we swept along as if amid the bowers of enchanted lands. Then the rapids lifted themselves before us, the calm stream broke into wild and seething torrents. Huge billows rolled on every hand, and like a cockle shell, our steamer tossed amid the waves, and gentleness, beauty, grandeur were all blended into one. Thus Professor Arthur impressed his hearers as from the pulpit he unfolded the hidden wonders of the Gospel of the Christ.

During the dark days of the rebellion Brother Arthur exerted an influence for his country and his Church second to no man in his Conference. Loyal to both and true to God, he was, during those gloomy times, an irresistible power for good, and order, and law, and the protection of the flag. He was, therefore, a patriot without disguise. He never compromised with himself or anybody else. He did what he believed to be right and duty without reference to results. He was a man of energy and will, and no man dared attempt to curb him in any of his utterances. As much as any other man of his generation in the State of his birth, he left his impress upon the times in which he lived.

When a worthy man dies, he should not be too soon forgotten. The memory of a good man is a heritage, and his life an example to the generations in which he lived. In the history of

this world, renown comes to the one who represents results. Let us not forget the patient toil, the indefatigable, painstaking efforts of this man of God, who at more than four-score years of living and laboring has passed beyond the veil, and has left behind him a record always on the side of right, which ought to live and be followed while the centuries roll on. Peace to his ashes. Rest to his soul.

As golden grain in perfect sheaf,  
His years are numbered to the full extent,  
And rest to him is sweet relief;  
Whose whole career was nobly spent.

Charleston, W. Va., January 23, 1900.

## ADDRESS OF WELCOME

*By Governor G. W. Atkinson, at the Reception of S. B. Donnelly, International President of the Typographical Union, at Charleston, January 27, 1900.*

MY FRIENDS AND FELLOW CITIZENS:—

It is a great privilege to me to welcome you, Mr. Donnally, as the International President of one of the greatest labor organizations of the times in which we live, to the Capital City of the State of West Virginia. It is said that comparisons are odious, and they usually are; but I do not think my word will be questioned when I say that of all of the mechanical and labor organizations we have in this country, the printers are classed at the head and front for intelligence and thoughtfulness. The business itself naturally furnishes a mental drill which is not accorded to other labor organizations. However much it may be said that the typographer sets type automatically, very much like he distributes the type into his case, yet, it is nevertheless true that he, of necessity, must absorb much of the valuable information contained in the "copy" which he transmits into type. You are therefore, gentlemen, wiser and better informed than the most of your brother mechanics who are engaged in other pursuits.



I know from experience, Mr. President, much of the ups and downs of the printer's life, and this is one reason why I turn my warmest side towards you to-night, my friends. I believe most heartily in all lawful organizations of every sort in these live, aggressive, pushing times. If men work singly and alone, they will have a poor show of success. But when they unite their forces, they become a mighty power in moving themselves and others along the great roadway of life.

My friends, the age in which we live tends, in all its movements, to expansion, diffusion, universality. This tendency is against exclusiveness, restriction, narrowness and monopoly; although the latter just now seems to have a mighty run in all lands. The privilege of petted individuals is becoming less, and the human race is becoming more. The multitude is rising from the dust. Once we heard of the few, now we hear of the many; once of the prerogatives of the part, now of the rights of the whole. More than ever before, we now see that the masses have inalienable rights to assert, and vast duties to perform. The World was made for all, and not for a few, and the great aim of governments is to spread a shield over the rights of all classes. The spirit of these truths is now coming forth in all of the departments of life, and the sooner they become universal, the better it will be for mankind.

My fellow-citizens, every day is a little life; and our whole life is but a day repeated. He, therefore, who loses a day is dangerously prodigal. Sweat is the destiny of all trades and callings, whether of the brows or of the minds. God never allowed any man to do nothing. Time is given and not lent. Therefore, all men should seek to toil. But many toil not, neither do they spin. No one wins anything unless he earnestly goes after it.

American History, my friends, is being rewritten as the old Century rolls out, and the new one is grandly coming in. The legendary and sentimental method of writing it is growing into disfavor. A scientific age demands truth, and under its insistence, new data are coming to light, and old methods are passing away. It is beginning to dawn on American minds that this great Republic is the child of all Europe, and not of any particular part of it. We, as Americans, are no longer distinctively Anglo-Saxon. The Celt and the Teuton are now becoming mighty factors in the make-up of this, the greatest of all the Re-

publics of the world, saying nothing of other nationalities that are pouring in upon us. We are a cosmopolitan people, with varied interests, and each interest, by organized efforts, looks after other classes. The one organization aids all others, and all others aid the one. The "Golden Rule" is becoming more conspicuous as the World grows older. "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you," should be the basis of the aims of one and all. More than at any other period of the World's history, the rule now is for one brother to help another up and on; and the printers, perhaps, more than any other class, have done their full share in bringing this about.

Horace Mann said: "Every school boy and school girl who has arrived at the age of reflection ought to know something about the history of the art of printing." As printing is the "art preservative," this great philosopher, in this sentiment, uttered a broad and lasting truth. I have often felt that a man who understands the printing art does much in the enlightenment and the elevation of mankind. Wherever the light of civilization has extended, the typographer can be found. Wherever the torch of intelligence has been lighted the printer has turned on the light. Wherever free thought has gone the printer is always in the push. Wherever books have been issued, the printer is behind them. Wherever the Christian religion has lifted up the Cross, the printer is in the van. He, therefore, represents thought, intelligence, action. He has done his part in lifting humanity to higher heights of duty, and higher conceptions of his relations to his fellow men.

Unless "Walt" Whitman was a printer, he went too far when he wrote this stanza:

"The jour printer, with gray head and gaunt jaws, works at his case;  
He turns his quid of tobacco while his eyes blur with the manuscript."

If this poor, old poet were not dead, the printers of the world would doubtless feel like resenting this apparent slur upon their high and noble calling.

This, I believe, is the first time President Donnally, or any other International President of the Typographical Union, has ever visited the State of West Virginia. We, therefore, feel complimented by this call, and welcome him all the heartier to our midst and to our State. I speak for our people when I say that we are glad you came, Mr. President, and sincerely trust

that you will have a pleasant visit among us. The Mayor holds the keys of the city. I hold the keys to this building and grounds. His Honor, the Mayor, therefore, will be a trespasser if he attempts to enter these grounds and this building with his maces and his keys. These grounds and this building are open to you and to your friends so long as you may remain in our midst.

Again I welcome you to Charleston most earnestly and most heartily, not only on behalf of all our printers, but on behalf of all of our people also.

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## CAUSES OF MURDERS AND SUICIDES.

*Governor Atkinson's Opinion thereon.*

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CHARLESTON, W. VA., Feb. 17, 1900.

The REV. M. F. COMPTON, B. D., D. D.

City,

My Dear Sir:

Replying to the several inquiries contained in your letter of to-day, I beg to reply as follows:

1. The principal cause of so many murders and suicides, is the excessive use of intoxicants. When one's brain is aflame from intoxicants, the moral and spiritual faculties are overcome by the baser elements of the animal nature, and the natural sequence is the commission of crimes, such as murder, suicide, larceny, etc.

Another cause for the prevalence of murder, is an uneducated and uncontrollable will, which is usually termed temper or viciousness. Men fly into passions and commit murder, which is attributable to lack of a proper discipline of the will.

Still another cause for both murder and suicide, is the want of proper mental balance. Men are often controlled by imaginary things: such as hallucinations, illusions and delusions, and while in such condition, they frequently kill themselves or others, and feel that they are doing right. I cannot, therefore, account for many murders that have come to my notice, unless they result from some uncontrollable imaginary influence, men-



tal aberration, and psychologic condition which appear unaccountable to the average person who possesses a well balanced intellect, a just disposition and a clean heart.

2. I regard the indiscriminate carrying of pistols as one of the greatest crimes against civilization. No man, except officers in the line of their duties, should, under any circumstances, be allowed to carry fire arms.

3. The reason that our courts do not punish more people for carrying concealed weapons, is because it is a difficult charge to prove. Such weapons are always concealed, and if one is sly about it, he can carry a pistol in his hip pocket for years, and no one will know anything about it until he pulls it from his pocket and takes a human life. It is the duty of all good citizens to report to the Prosecuting Attorneys of the various counties of the State, every person who is known to carry a dangerous weapon of any kind.

4. Our present statutes against carrying concealed weapons are as strong as they can be made, unless the offence be made a felony, instead of a misdemeanor; and when one is found guilty, send him to the penitentiary. This provision would perhaps be too severe, but at the same time it would save scores and scores of lives to the State every year.

5. The only suggestion I can make in a general way to prevent crimes of all grades, is to push the cause of general education and the Gospel of the Christ. An educated man, as a rule, can control his will, and a Christian man will not take a human life, unless it is absolutely necessary to save his own.

Very respectfully,

G. W. ATKINSON.

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## ADDRESS OF WELCOME

*By Governor G. W. Atkinson on Dewey Day, at Wheeling, West Virginia, February 22, 1900.*

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ADMIRAL DEWEY, AND FELLOW-CITIZENS OF WEST VIRGINIA:—

There never was a time, and there never will come a time,

when the masses of mankind have failed, or will fail to duly honor a patriot and a hero. The American people are not hero worshippers, but they adore the men that honor them.

American citizens are patriotic, because their best thoughts and their highest purposes in life have ever been to advance and protect the interests and the welfare of their fellow-men.

The sentiment of patriotism, however, is as universal as the human race. Other countries and other lands may allure one, for a time, with their beauties and their attractions, but when the novelty of change and scenery have past, the recollections of native land break in upon the heart like the cheering sunbeams of a summer morn. However distant one may be from his fatherland, towards it he constantly turns his longings and his love as the Hebrew does towards the East; the Moslem towards his Mecca, and the Magician towards the sun; and it is well that it is so.

Nothing, my countrymen, is so bound up with the cause of morality and religion as personal and political liberty and the universal rights of men. Unless I have read history backwards; unless *Magna Charta* and the Declaration of Independence and the Bill of Rights are myths and shams and contumacious falsehoods; unless the sages, and heroes, and martyrs, who have sacrificed their lives for principle, and conscience, and country, were imposters; unless, indeed, the sublime transactions of all history are deceitful, there is no cause so closely linked with patriotism, morality and religion as the cause of democratic liberty.

Nature itself is democratic, because it is an universal leveler. The sciences are also democratic, because they, too, are leveling all factitious distinctions, and are forcing the world on to a nobler destiny. The steam engine is democratic, because its iron arms are thrown around all classes, and knows no caste or condition among men; and electricity has written the word "Liberty" above all the thrones of all the empires, because they have been weighed in the balances and found wanting, and because it shines, like God's great luminary, for one and all. God intended all mankind to be free. He never intended one man to own another, or men to oppress one another unjustly. Oppression everywhere is crumbling. Every sound principle in the warp and woof of the human race is at work in behalf of universal freedom, and in the fullness of time it will come. (Applause.)

The latter half of the nineteenth century, my friends, has developed a list of chieftains and warriors whose suns will never set; and it is now a mooted question whether the world has ever seen their like. Salamis and Trafalgar fade into littleness when compared with Manilla and Santiago. Commodore Dewey made himself an Admiral by his great victory at Manilla, and "the peerage", or its equivalent, which Lord Nelson claimed for victory at Trafalgar, is at the Admiral's command, and at last he, like Nelson, will be laid to rest among the greatest of the nation's dead.

The battle of Manila stands to-day, my countrymen, and perhaps will ever remain, the most wonderful naval battle of all history and all times. (Applause.) That battle made the United States powerful and strong, and it made Dewey great; and if it were possible for them to speak, the models of heroic excellence and the apostles of civil and religious liberty of all the centuries, would arise from the shades of the illustrious dead and call Admiral Dewey blessed for the uplift he, in that battle, gave to the entire human race. By that victory at Manila, Spain went down and liberty went up. By it ten million Filipinos were made freemen, but some how they do not seem to have intelligence enough to grasp it. By it Democratic government was given an impetus which will drive it ultimately around the globe. By it true religion has lighted a torch that, under God, will never be extinguished; and by it the doorway to more than one nation was unlocked to civilization's forward march in broadening and beautifying and ennobling the world. (Loud applause).

My fellow-citizens, the renown which Admiral Dewey in that single battle won, rises in majesty above all common levels, reminding one of the cloud-capped towers of the Alps, as the travelers at their bases have seen them bathed in the morning sunlight, and kissing the skies with which they seemed to hold communion; or to come nearer home, he stands above the level of ordinary heroes, as the highest peaks of the Alleghenies rise above the waters of the Ohio which lave the border of this renowned old city where we are to-day assembled. (Applause).

It was said that if Trojan found Pliny, Marcus Aurelius would not need historian, biographer nor eulogist; and it can be truly said that Admiral Dewey needs none of these in this and all other civilized portions of the earth. His name is written in



imperishable letters all over this proud land of the free, and his fame is inscribed upon the hearts of all his countrymen. (Applause). Admiral Dewey has erected his own monument, and when he is called to a brighter home (which all of us trust will not be for many years to come), the American nation, which above all others honors patriotism and genius and virtue and liberty and truth, will, with their tears, keep the grass green which shall cover his grave forever. (Loud cheers).

Admiral Dewey, on behalf of all the people of the State of West Virginia, I extend to you a hearty and generous welcome to our midst. (Prolonged cheering.)

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## CHILDREN'S HOME SOCIETY OF W. VA.

*Remarks of Governor Atkinson at the Fourth Annual Meeting  
of the Same, February 28, 1900.*

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LADIES AND GENTLEMEN:—

This is the fourth annual meeting of the Children's Home Society of West Virginia, which has been duly chartered by the Legislature of the State. Although it is yet quite in its infancy, it is growing rapidly, and is doing a vast amount of good. As you all know, there is not a portion of our domain but contains a large number of hopeless, hapless, and helpless children. Some of them are orphans. Some of them have parents yet alive, but are really in worse condition than if they were in orphanage. These children should be provided for. Some of the States have Children's Homes, which are kept up at State expense, for the purpose of providing for such children as I have mentioned. Other States have private institutions, where provisions are made by beneficent people to care for indigent, helpless children. West Virginia has a few of these private homes, but, as you all know, they only reach a few, while the many are dependent upon the general charity of the people where they are found.

This organization is based upon common sense principles. Instead of massing children together in Children's Homes, which

are kept up at private or public expense, the plan of this Society proposes to find homes first, and then to select children to suit them, which children, according to the rules of the Society, are regularly adopted into the different families where they are taken, and, necessarily, are better cared for and grow up to be more useful and intelligent citizens than if they were confined in regular Children's Homes. I have looked into the workings of the plan upon which our Society is based, in other States, and I find that it is working well everywhere that it has been tested. As I have already stated, it certainly is the natural method, and ought to be encouraged by all good people.

Our State Superintendent will render to-night a statistical report of his work, which I am satisfied will show you that all I have said is true, and even more. It is not my purpose to detain you with any extended remarks on this occasion, for the reason that we have with us a gentleman from the sister State of Kentucky, who has been connected with a Society similar to ours for a number of years past, and who has been brought here for the purpose of telling to you his experiences, and to explain to you the advantages and benefits of an organization like this.

One of our distinguished West Virginia fellow-citizens (the Hon. Henry G. Davis) has donated to the Society \$10,000 for the purpose of purchasing a temporary home for children *in transitu* and also for a home for the Superintendent and his assistants. He has not only given to us the sum which I have mentioned, but he agrees to pay \$1,000 per year towards its support. It is not presumed that this home will contain, at any one time, more than four or five, or perhaps six or eight, children. Sometimes we find a greater number of children than we can secure homes for. We must, of course, take care of them until proper homes can be found. No child is given to any individual except that individual signs a regular agreement to adopt the child and educate it as if it were his own, and if, at any time, he is found derelict in his duty towards the child, our contract gives us the right to take possession of the child and turn it over to a more deserving family.

We will first hear the report of the General Superintendent, and afterwards you will be addressed, I am sure most satisfactorily, by the Rev. Mr. Shoesmith, of the State of Kentucky.

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EXECUTIVE ORDER.*Removing a Notary Public from Office.*

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WHEREAS, It has come to my notice through the Hon. E. A. Hitchcock, Secretary of the Interior, that one Samuel T. Fouty, a Notary Public of the County of Wood, has been guilty of gross malfeasance in office, in that he received from one Thomas C. Grewell the sum of \$55.00, and Mary E. Doyle, the sum of \$55.00, they being pensioners under the United States Government, under false pretenses made to them; and,

WHEREAS, The evidence furnished the Hon. Secretary of the Interior by the Hon. Commissioner of Pensions, clearly establishes the guilt of the said Samuel T. Fouty, as above stated;

THEREFORE, I, Geo. W. Atkinson, Governor of the State of West Virginia, by the authority vested in me under Section 10 of Article 7 of the Constitution of West Virginia, hereby revoke the Commission of the said Samuel T. Fouty as a Notary Public in and for the County of Wood, in the State of West Virginia. All acts, therefore, of the said Fouty as a Notary Public, on and after this date, are null and void.

Given under my hand and the seal of the State, this the 3rd day of March, A. D., 1900, and in the thirty-seventh year of the State.

SEAL.

G. W. ATKINSON,  
Governor.

By the Governor:

WM. M. O. DAWSON,  
Secretary of State.

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## THE VIRGINIA DEBT CONTROVERSY.

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EXECUTIVE MANSION,  
CHARLESTON, W. VA.,  
March 3, 1900.

TO THE BALTIMORE SUN,  
Baltimore, Md.

After West Virginia was admitted as a State, the State of Virginia apportioned to West Virginia one-third of its then ex-



isting debt, which was about \$15,000,000, and issued West Virginia certificates for that amount, without any authority from the State of West Virginia. West Virginians generally claim that they paid about one-third of the taxes of the old State for nearly one hundred years, and received in the way of public improvements, comparatively nothing. In fact, all the benefits we received were two or three dirt turnpikes, a small appropriation for the Insane Asylum at Weston, and the expenditure of a small sum of money in grading a few miles of track in Cabell County, which is now a part of the C. & O. Railroad system. If it be true that what is now the territory of West Virginia paid something like one-third of the taxes to carry on the State Government for the period I have stated, and received but little benefit from the investments which became the bonded debt of Virginia, coupled with the further fact that when the State was divided the old State kept practically all of the assets, then, if this be true, it seems to me that West Virginia does not legitimately owe any part of the Virginia debt. If our State is to be required to pay one-third of the debt of Virginia because we composed about one-third of the territory of the State, then, upon the division of the State, we would certainly be entitled to one-third of the assets, as well as one-third of the improvements generally, for which the debt was created.

When West Virginia was organized, it was understood that our State was to pay her legitimate proportion of the Virginia debt, and our Legislature directed the appointment of commissioners to confer with the Virginia authorities, with a view of arriving at a fair adjustment of the debt between the two States. The commissioners sent by West Virginia to Richmond were not recognized by the Virginia authorities, and the old State therefore refused to enter into negotiations with the West Virginia authorities to arrive at a proper adjustment of the question at issue. If, after a careful investigation of all the expenditures which went to create the \$15,000,000 debt of Virginia, and the taking into consideration how and where the public funds were expended, it can be shown that West Virginia owes any equitable part of the debt, I have no doubt but that our people will agree to pay the same. It was, however, evident to all intelligent West Virginians that the old State had no right to issue West Virginia certificates, under any circumstances, nor will they admit that simply because

West Virginia embodied about one-third of the territory of the State, that she should therefore pay one-third of the debt.

Feeling as I now do that West Virginia does not owe legitimately any part of the Virginia debt which amounts to anything, I certainly would not recommend the Legislature to pay any part of said debt.

G. W. ATKINSON,  
Governor.

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## WEST VIRGINIA A GOOD PLACE TO INVEST CAPITAL.

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EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,  
Charleston, W. Va., March 12, 1900.

MR. WILL N. VINING,  
Care Supreme Court of Appeals,  
Austin, Texas.

MY DEAR SIR—

I own receipt of your letter of the 9th inst., in which you make inquiry relative to investments in West Virginia. Our State, perhaps, is developing more rapidly than any other State in the Union. Our greatest industries are coal, oil, gas and timber. We, nevertheless, have good farming territory, although the country is hilly and broken. Still, our soil is especially adapted to fruit growing, stock raising, and, in a general way, it produces all the cereals in good quantities, because the soil is rich. Coal lands can be purchased from \$5.00 an acre up to \$1,000. The cheap lands, of course, are distant from railroads, but contain as good coal as those along the railroad lines already in operation. If you or your friends desire to invest any money in lands with a view of letting the lands lie for five or ten years, I can refer you to parties who will sell you the very best of coal properties at \$5.00 an acre, which, within five years, will be reached by railroads. When the railroad passes through such lands, the properties, perhaps, will increase one hundredfold. Coking coal lands, situated upon railroads, can not be bought at all, but you can go back five to ten miles from the railroad, which would have to be reached by a branch line, and buy good

coking coal land from \$10.00 to \$25.00 an acre. We have a greater variety of coals in West Virginia by far than any other State in the Republic.

Timber is also one of our great industries, and there is no question as to the grade and quantity of our timber. The value of timber lands is fixed entirely on the basis of its location. If along a railroad, or close to it, you will have to pay from \$10.00 to \$25.00 an acre for the timber alone, because our timber is large and valuable.

A large portion of our State is underlaid with oil and gas. Engaging in either of these businesses is accompanied by a considerable risk, as you may be within what is deemed good oil and gas territory, and bore a well, which will cost you from \$3,000 to \$5,000; and yet strike no gas or oil. I have known wells to be put down one hundred feet apart, one of which will be a producer and the other what we term a "dry hole". Our production of oil last year was in the neighborhood of 19,000,000 barrels.

If you want to engage in the colliery business, I can refer you to parties here who will furnish you all the lands you want, and all the assistance within their reach. The same may be said of the lumber business. Our product of coal last year ran up to over 18,000,000 long tons, and our coke 2,250,000 tons. I am safe in saying to you that about \$25,000,000 of outside capital came into West Virginia during the last twelve months, so you see we are progressing, and if you desire to come among us, I am satisfied you will not make any mistake. Our laws are rigidly enforced, our schools are good, and so are our church privileges; taxes are reasonable, and you will not be burdened on that account.

Any further information you may desire will be forthcoming at your will.

Very respectfully yours,

G. W. ATKINSON,  
Governor of West Virginia.

[NOTE.—This is a sample of hundreds of similar letters written by the Governor, in answering inquiries as to West Virginia development and prospects.]



## AN APPEAL

*To the Charitable People of West Virginia.—A Statement  
by the Governor.*

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TO THE CITIZENS OF WEST VIRGINIA:—

This office is in receipt of a communication from the “Christian Herald,” published in New York, a newspaper of general circulation and of unquestionable responsibility, in which the statement is emphasized that a large portion of the population of India are in a starving condition, resulting from a famine, which, in the dispensation of Divine Providence, seems to have fallen upon that country and its inhabitants. The “Christian Herald” is now loading two ships with supplies for the starving people, male and female, old and young, in different sections of far away India. This great religious newspaper asks me to officially and publicly present the facts to the citizens of our State.

While a famine is impossible in a country like our own, and while we are now in the midst of plenty and prosperity on every hand, we should be willing and ready, it seems to me, to respond to the call of the “Herald” to send to the publishers of that paper such sums of money as we can conveniently spare from our own needs, to be expended in the purchase of food and clothing for the tens of thousands that are now in the actual throes of starvation in India. The “Christian Herald” is entirely responsible, and any funds sent to that newspaper will be honestly and judiciously expended; and I trust that it will be the pleasure of a large number of West Virginians to promptly respond to its call for charitable aid. If action is taken at all, it should be done with great promptness, as the two ships referred to will sail very soon with relief supplies.

Very respectfully,

G. W. ATKINSON,

Governor of West Virginia.

Charleston, W. Va., April 19, 1900.

## W. VA. GRAND ARMY.

*Address of Gov. Geo. W. Atkinson, A. B., at the Annual Meeting of the Grand Army Posts of West Virginia, April 25, 1900, at Moundsville.*

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(From the Moundsville Daily Herald.)

SOLDIERS OF THE GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN:—

I assure you it is a very great pleasure to me to meet with you to-day, and to talk to you for a few minutes here in the "Mound City" of our prosperous "Mountain State." It is both pleasant and profitable for the old soldiers in the war of the Rebellion to meet and greet one another on occasions like this. Such gatherings of comrades as this recall the solemn scenes of 1861 to 1865 like dreams of the almost forgotten past; and yet the experiences of that awful conflict can never be entirely forgotten. The fangs of that contest have all been drawn, and we are glad of that, but the scars are with you yet. The curved spines, the gray hairs and the empty sleeves tell a solemn story that cannot be depicted in words, however eloquent they may be. (Applause). Many of your comrades have answered the last roll-call, but we rejoice to-day that a goodly number of you are with us yet. (Cheers).

On an occasion like this, one must be pardoned for retrospecting, at least in a limited way. I am your friend, and you know it, and this gives me license to talk as I feel. Just thirty-nine years ago more than ten thousand bugle blasts caused a half million "Boys in Blue" to forsake homes and loved ones in answer to the Nation's call to arms. When the brass bands, fifes and drums rolled out their martial strains of music, how the loyal hearts were thrilled and the thousands rallied to the summons. (Cheers). As another has said, in substance, "men kissed their wives, and their daughters, and their sweethearts, and went forth to do and die." They affectionately kissed and parted, and many of them forever. We see them part, wife and lover, and follow them to the gates weeping. We see them disappear down the lanes beneath flaunting flags and on through

towns and cities to fields of glory to defend their country and its institutions. In hospitals and prisons they suffered. On fields of battle they met the foe, and beneath God's sunshine and stars, they bore aloft our Nation's starry ensign. (Applause). Their sacrifices and sufferings cannot be written. Language is totally inadequate to express even a faint description of their sacrifices for mankind. A republic versus monarchy was on trial, and it was then in the throes of a crucial test for existence. Their actions, and sacrifices, and sufferings settled the test forever that Republics can endure. The risk they ran for our Nation and its flag, as we consider it more calmly, causes us to love them more as the years roll on. We cherish the memories of their sacred dead, and feebly honor them by covering their graves with May-day flowers every 30th of May. All the world says the records these sainted soldiers made are as eternal as the stars. (Cheers). All the world crowns them patriots, and all thoughtful men uncover as the veteran processions pass, with their muffled drums and their arm-loads of garlands to scatter above the ashes of their silent, sleeping comrades. (Applause).

There is no better title to enduring fame than the four years' services rendered by the faithful hosts of the "Boys in Blue." In honors truly to be envied, there is no roll-call, whether in the American Congress, the German Reichstag, or the English Parliament, comparable with the roll-call of our volunteer soldiers at Missionary Ridge, Chickamaugua, Vicksburg, Bull Run, Antietum, Gettysburg, and Appomattox. I had rather my name was called as a private soldier for my country in these great engagements than in any legislative body or ministerial cabinet on God's green footstool. (Cheers). Thus do millions to-day look upon the services rendered by the volunteer army of the Republic. It is thirty-five years since the great conflict ended, and it is only as the smoke and fog of battle pass away that we can clearly see the magnificent record these citizen soldiers made. (Applause).

We can now see plainly, at this distance from the war, that these soldiers in giving us but one flag, instead of two, one constitution, and a Nation united, they also gave us peace. They gave us enduring peace, because they gave us universal liberty in all the States. It has taken our people a full quarter-century to find out the true value of liberty, free labor, and



free thought. We are just beginning to appreciate in its fullness, the true grandeur of a Republic under whose flag all classes and races of men can walk erect in the dignity of unrestricted freedom. (Applause). Thank God, in our great country no man owns another, and better than all, labor is forever free. (Cheers). At last we have learned the lesson, though it was written in blood, that labor is of God, and that nothing is more sacred and more to be respected than honest, faithful toil. Labor is wealth, and man needs no better passport to fame than that he earns his living by the sweat of his face. (Cheers). Our soldiers of the late war, though fratricidal as it was, should want no greater title to nobility than that they gave to the American people universal liberty, which in turn made labor free and made thought free also. (Applause).

Free labor and free thought, my friends, have done more than all things else to elevate mankind. They have chained the lightning, conquered steam, bridled machinery, broken down caste, and uplifted man. They have treed out the brain, whetted the intellect and broadened the outlook of all our people. They are the fulcrum and the lever which, under God, have raised ours until it now is the foremost and tallest nation on the earth. (Applause.) Any man who does not believe in free labor and free thought is an enemy to human progress. Any man who does not thank our soldiers for breaking down the middle walls of the partition of prejudice and letting in the unbroken rays of righteousness and truth, is an enemy to himself as well as to all mankind. We rejoice to-day that ours is the foremost free nation beneath the circle of the sun; and our soldiers made it such. (Cheers.) Col. Ingersoll aptly said: "They rolled away the stone from the door of the sepulcher of progress." It always requires revolutions to accomplish works that are overwhelming and great. It has always been so, and it always will be so in both Church and State. It was so in Greece, and Rome, and Russia, and Germany, and France, and England, and it was no exception in our own fair land. Minor questions can be arbitrated, but great upheavals alone can come as the result of war. For four thousand years, China, the richest, largest and most populous empire beneath the stars, locked her gates against civilization and progress; and with six months of war, the half-civilized Japanese, a third-rate dominion, broke down these barriers, and let in the light that China had sworn

should never shine above her people. For such achievements as these, and for the great work that our own army wrought, every man who loves liberty and light should echo the utterance of the eloquent Ingersoll: "I have one sentiment for the soldiers living and dead—cheers for the living and tears for the dead. The dead and the living, like a bow of peace, spans and arches all the clouds of war." There is a volume in that utterance, and I adopt it as my own sentiment to-day. (Loud cheers.)

There is another fact to which I desire briefly to allude, and that is, that the wounds of the war in our country have been completely healed. The soldiers who wore the gray are now beginning to feel, and see, and understand that the soldiers who wore the blue saved the South as well as the North. There are no better loyalists to-day than the soldiers of the Southland. (Applause.) "The Blue and the Gray" are clasping hands across the deep, broad chasm that once divided them, which it was for years claimed by many of our people could never be arched. But it is now being arched by the brilliant bow of fraternity, and love, and enduring peace. (Loud applause.)

The war is over and Father Time  
Has cleared the strife away—  
And scattered golden sunbeams  
Where once dark shadows lay.  
The heroes sleep: oh, let them rest!  
Don't take their fame away,  
For glory marks each sacred spot—  
Where sleep the "Blue" and "Gray".

Each fought for what he deemed was right,  
Each heart was brave and true,  
And honor marks the paths they trod,  
Alike—the "Gray" and "Blue".  
And angels hover o'er the scenes  
Where these brave heroes lay,  
And we decorate the graves of all,  
Whether they wore the "Blue" or "Gray".

My countrymen, we are beginning to feel that there is no North, no South. Sectionalism bothers us no longer and is now a thing of the past; and we rejoice that it is so. Co-operation is the controlling spirit of the present, and the soldiers of both armies are leading on. All ideal citizens are workers. The hand that is hardened by toil is an honest hand. (Applause.) There are but two classes of men in a republic—workers and shirkers. No man is honest who does not toil. The workers of the North and the workers of the South join hands in helping one another

on. There is true fellowship in that. All workers should be brothers, and should crowd the shirkers to the rear (Cheers.) In all hives, the workers kill the drones. The bees do it; and if a lazy drone, with two good legs, gets in the way of the driving, working multitude, he should be crushed by the press. (Laughter.) Every avenue, in these free, pushing times, is open to all alike, and the war made it so. Education, enterprise, honesty, sobriety, labor—all are free. There is no proscription anywhere. The chain that bound the humble and the poor has been broken. The weak has been made strong, and the poor of the past are the rich of the present. Genius and labor produce wealth, and the patriots, North and South, will always see that it is properly protected. Anarchism will find no foothold here. They say they will blow us up. We will blow them up. (Cheers.) The honest impulses of the American people will always swing them on the side of fair dealing between man and man. The men who attempt to steal any part of our great country, or shall try to steal a living out of it, will fall short of their undertakings. Our people, North and South, will see to it that all outsiders shall "toat fair" or leave. (Laughter.) Our soldiers preserved this country as our heritage, and we are going to keep it for ourselves and our posterity forever. (Applause.)

There is another fact which I desire to mention to-day, my friends, because it is one of the live questions of the hour. It is this: If the Government had the right to require men to serve in its army, it is honor bound to protect them in their declining years. (Cheers.) A Government that does not protect the men that protected it is only a government in name. Our soldiers from '61 to '65 were the Government. In those trying hours in the life of the Republic our army was our only stay. The soldiers were the Nation then, and now they are the Nation's wards; and it is the few and not the many who have the temerity to say that they shall not be munificently cared for now, as their ranks are thinning out in the quick-step march they are making towards life's golden sunset yonder in the west. (Loud cheering.)

Occasionally we hear a whine from some cymbling-headed, lily-livered chump about our soldiers drawing pensions. (Laughter). Let them whine on. The time is at hand when every soldier who carried a saber or a musket ought to draw a pension. (Cheers). The charge has been made that thousands of fraudu-



lent pensioners are on the rolls. There never was a baser slander uttered. After the closest possible scrutiny of the pension rolls, out of 940,000 pensioners thirty-nine alleged frauds were discovered. This was less than one in 25,000; and it proves that the surviving veterans of the war are more honest than the twelve Apostles who followed our Savior through his ministry on the earth. (Loud cheers.)

Soldiers of the Grand Army, let not your hearts be troubled. Amid the clash of battle you trusted your country, and it is going to trust you. (Applause.) The great mass of the people are with you and behind you. You stood as a wall of iron before shot and shell, and the American people will stand as a wall of protection around all of you. (Cheers). You have our sympathy, but you deserve more than that. Sympathy is a comfort, but it will not keep the wolf from the old, decrepid, sick man's door. (Cheers.) Every soldier will be granted a pension from the Government commensurate with the services he rendered and the sacrifices he made; and in addition to this, he will have,—indeed, he now has,—the sympathy of the loyal millions whose arms are thrown around him as he is rapidly marching towards his final camping ground. (Prolonged cheering.)

I wish I had time to pay a proper tribute to the loyal, patriotic, liberty-loving women of the Republic. (Applause). When the war clouds hung like a midnight pall and the Nation was trembling in the balances, these loyal women were its truest friends, and stood closest to our soldiers on the tented field. But for their devotion and support in those trying hours no one can tell what the result might have been. They were messengers of mercy on every field of battle, caring for the wounded and aiding in burying the dead. (Cheers). They will never be forgotten while American history is read. The records they made were not those like Zenobia and Aspasia and Cleopatra and Semiramus, but like Debora and Ruth and Cornelia, whose ruling purposes in life were to make themselves useful instead of renowned. (Applause). Good souls! many of them are gone from the throng of the living, but they left behind them a halo of light which will shine brighter and brighter until "the perfect day." (Cheers).

My fellow citizens, the war with Spain and the one now going on in the Philippine archipelago, have, in a short space of time,

done more than the work of the previous generation, to cause all the American people to fully appreciate the services rendered the Nation by the Federal soldiers from 1861 to '65. The people can now see the value of that fratricidal war, and none see it more clearly than the men who wore the gray. This should be, and is I am sure, a gratification to all of you. (Applause.) All of us rejoice to-day that the South and the North are one and inseparable, and that "Old Glory" waves triumphantly to-day over many islands in the seas, which were wrested from Spain by soldier patriots from every portion of our great Republic. (Applause.) The United States is widening the scope of its influence and power. It stands for universal freedom. It stands for equal rights before the law. It stands against oppression and for the oppressed wherever its navy splits the waves of oceans and seas. It stands for education and civilization. It stands for an open Bible. It stands for free thought and free speech; and it will thus continue to stand in the future as in the past; and ten million fighting men are at its command to make good its promises to mankind. (Loud applause.) We have owned Islands ever since the British surrendered at Yorktown. We own more of them now, and we are going to hold on to them "sink or swim, live or die, survive or perish." (Applause.) Our men behind the guns know what they are doing. The great Nations are satisfied that we are "some body." Sentimentalists cannot shake our faith in ourselves or dampen the loyalty of our American people. We are at the front to stay. Our flag will never be lowered except by American hands at home or abroad. (Prolonged Applause.) We are going to construct the Nicaragua Canal, and then build a sufficiency of American ships to carry our own products over all the seas. We are following Thos. Jefferson's teachings to reach forward and out. We are going to expand wide enough and big enough to hold our own with the biggest Nations beneath the stars. (Applause.) The American people are neither hide-bound nor timid. They never yet trampled upon any other Nation's rights, and never will; but they respect themselves, and they mean to see to it that others shall respect them also. (Loud cheers.) We are singing the song of liberty wherever our ships sail and our flag floats, and other progressive peoples will take it up, and will ultimately carry it to the earth's remotest bounds. (Loud cheers.) It is catching. It is in the very air we breathe.

It is spreading. Slavery is going—gone! God intended all peoples to be free, and all of the Monarchies are now loosening their grip upon their subjects. The United States is the flag-ship in the procession that is leading on to victory. (Loud applause.) The United States is setting the world a higher example of National duty than has hitherto been known. We as a Nation have never sought war, and we are not seeking it now. Because the fathers of the Republic had no foreign policy, is no reason why we should not have one in our day and generation. Civilization certainly should have right of way over barbarism in all lands. We are Anglo-Saxons, and the Anglo-Saxon race will never lay down its weapons until it establishes the blessings of universal freedom in all countries that seek to come under the shadow of the American flag. (Loud applause). I thank you, my fellow-citizens, for hearing me so long. (Prolonged cheering).

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## GENERAL GRANT DAY.

*Remarks of Governor Atkinson before the Americus Club at  
Pittsburg, Pa., April 27, 1900, General Grant-Day.*

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### MR. TOASTMASTER AND GENTLEMEN:

Peerless alike in camp and cabinet was Ulyses S. Grant. Simple-hearted, unpretentious, retiring, conscientious, self-poised, heroic, and more than any other man of his time, he possessed the confidence of his countrymen. They showered upon him all the honors they could bestow, and rejoiced when potentates abroad uncovered before him. Faithfully and reverently the American people followed him. They followed him from Vicksburg to Appomattox. They followed him from Appomattox twice to the Presidency, and with bowed heads amid tolling bells they followed him to the grave. They buried him beneath a wilderness of flowers, and the grass around his tomb will be kept green forever with an admiring Nation's tears.

General Grant was truly "the silent man of destiny." His unparalleled career exemplified the truth that the shallows mur-



mur while the deeps are dumb, and that a brawling mountain rivulet makes more noise than the majestic Mississippi. Like Julius Cæsar and Napoleon, Grant was both General and statesman. He was the commander of men in legislative halls as well as on the battle field; and of all Americans whose histories have been written, he was the nearest self-poised. If he bent at all in any direction, it was always toward the right; and better than everything beside, he never turned his back upon his friends. To them he was linked as with hooks of steel, and history has already rewarded him for that. More than any other American chieftain, he left his impress upon the times in which he lived. When he went down, a tall cedar fell, and like all other really great men, he grows taller and bigger as we get farther from him. Although victorious on a hundred battlefields, death conquered him at last; but he was the same true soldier to the end. Those who were with him in life's closing hours tell us that he dropped no tear and gave no sign that his splendid courage was not equal to his dreadful pain. Thus the great soldier, who had never before surrendered, answered to the Master's bugle call to enter the highest and noblest destiny of all. In this his courage and simplicity were sublime.

General Grant, though dead, still lives; lives, we believe, in a better world; lives with a happier throng; lives with a nobler company; lives in history and song; lives as the Nation's greatest Captain; lives in the hearts of his countrymen forever.

His carven scroll shall read:  
 Here rests the valiant heart  
 Whose duty was his creed,—  
 Whose choice the warrior's part.

Who, when the fight was done,  
 The grim, last foe defied,  
 Naught knew save victory won,—  
 Surrendered not—but died.

## SPEECH

*Of Governor G. W. Atkinson, as Temporary President of the  
Republican State Convention at Fairmont, West Vir-  
ginia, May 8, 1900.*

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(From Wheeling Intelligencer, May 9, 1900.)

## MY FELLOW CITIZENS OF WEST VIRGINIA:

I thank you for the honor of being called to preside over the preliminary deliberations of this, the first State Convention in the campaign of 1900. We meet to-day in this thriving and growing city, under auspicious circumstances. The outlook for the success of the Republican party this year is arched by an unerring bow of promise. West Virginia Republican voters are more enthusiastic than I have ever before known at the beginning of a campaign. They seem to be conscious of sure victory. Their faces are everywhere radiant with hope. They are full of courage and fight, and they will not lay down their arms until the setting of the sun on election day. These are favorable omens of success. For myself, my fellow citizens, I have not even the shadow of a doubt as to a satisfactory result. The Republican party has made good every one of its promises which were given to the country four years ago, and it, therefore, enters this contest conscious of duties faithfully performed and with the belief, deeply grounded, that it is invincible, because it has at all times dealt fairly with the people.

As was expected at the close of the campaign of 1896, in which Free Silver was the issue, this year we would be confronted with something new, and we have not been disappointed. The Democratic party fought us with Free Trade until they wore themselves out, and well nigh bankrupted the Government and the people. Then they took up the free and unlimited coinage of silver, at a ratio of 16 to 1, and they went down under that; and now they have decided to make Expansion and Trusts their war cries, with Free Trade and Free Silver in the back ground and on the side. It makes no difference to us what their hobbies are or may be, we will meet them on the hustings, and will vanquish them again in the arena of free thought and free

speech. Our West Virginia people have become too well informed and too well educated to be again led astray by any *ignis fatuus* or will-o'-the-wisp. For a while they allowed themselves to be carried away by passions, prejudices, and false promises, but it can never be done again. As Mr. Lincoln expressed it, "All of the people can be fooled part of the time, part of the people can be fooled all the time, but it is impossible to fool all the people all the time." We fasted for four years under Cleveland Free Trade, and that is enough to last us for a quarter of a Century. We cannot easily forget the glowing promises that were unraveled before the country in 1892, and as long as those who lived through the catastrophe of that awful mistake remain among us, we will never repeat the experiment again. They promised us bread, and gave us a stone. They promised us fish, and they gave us a serpent. They promised us good times, and they gave us desolation and despair. They promised us prosperity, and gave us idleness and soup houses. They promised us a Tariff for revenue only, and they gave us a Tariff for deficiency only. They promised us to fill the National Treasury with money, and filled it instead with a vacuum so wide and deep that it will take years of Republican rule to restore the healthy conditions which existed when the Government was turned over to them. It is a well known fact that treasuries under Democratic management are always empty. The only way the Democratic party has ever furnished a surplus in this country is by borrowing it, as Mr. Cleveland did during his last Administration.

Everybody knows that the Republican party is a party of the living, and not of the dead. To act, to assume responsibilities, to confront emergencies, to go at every problem to solve and settle it,—this is the genius of the Republican party. It despises evasion, it detests compromises, it rejoices in opportunities. Endeavor is its element,—opposition is its quickening spirit. It is the party for young men to live in, and for old men to die in. The Republican party keeps its face to the future, and grapples only with living issues, while the Democratic party, forever protesting, follows in its wake, and its dark and gloomy pathway is dimly lighted by the smouldering camp fires of the party of progress. Our party lives in the present,—the other in the past. The Republican party has never failed to meet every issue squarely. It has never failed to fulfill all of its promises to the



people. Why, my friends, for more than a quarter of a Century nearly every line of American History is but the life story of the Republican party.

#### THE PUERTO RICO TARIFF.

My fellow citizens, as a result of the war entered upon with the loftiest purposes, and at the practically unanimous demand of the American people, without regard to party, faction or creed, we find ourselves in possession of the Island of Puerto Rico, the Phillipine Archipelago, and other Islands of the Seas. Necessarily these new possessions bring to us new privileges and new responsibilities which we are called upon to meet, and which we must meet in a spirit worthy of a great Government like our own.

Holbert, the teacher of the great Napoleon, once said that the question of raising revenue was like plucking a goose; that is to say, how to secure the greatest possible amount of feathers with the least possible amount of squalling. The new Government of Puerto Rico must have a large amount of revenue, and the question before Congress was how best to raise it. A duty of 15 per cent. was adopted to be levied upon all articles sent into the United States from the Island, which import duty, or tax as the Democrats are pleased to call it, is immediately returned to the Island to aid in maintaining its Government. Ninety-five per cent. of the Puerto Ricans are poor, and therefore have nothing to export, while the remaining five per cent. of the people are well-to-do farmers, who are engaged mainly in the production of sugar, tobacco and coffee, and are therefore amply able to pay the 15 per cent. customs duty on these products. It seems to me that no one should complain of this method of taxation, inasmuch as all the money thus collected is turned back into Puerto Rico to be expended in its behalf by the local administrative Government of the Island. Moreover, this revenue provision is temporary, and not permanent. The law provides that whenever the Legislative Assembly of Puerto Rico shall have enacted and put into operation a system of local taxation to meet the necessities of the Government of Puerto Rico, by this act established, and shall, by resolution duly passed, so notify the President, he shall make proclamation thereof, and thereupon all Tariff duties on merchandise and

articles going into Puerto Rico from the United States, or going into the United States from Puerto Rico, shall cease.

If this plan had not been agreed upon, it being absolutely necessary to raise a revenue to pay the running expenses of the Government of Puerto Rico, our American system of Internal Revenue taxation would have to be applied, or a local tax would have to be levied upon the personal and real property of the inhabitants of the Island, in the same manner that our own people in this country are taxed. The Puerto Ricans are unaccustomed to such laws, and it would therefore be unpopular, and, more than that, it would be a burden upon the poorer classes, as it must be remembered that in Puerto Rico there are in operation a large number of small cigar and tobacco factories and other small industries that would necessarily have to pay no small amount of the Internal Revenue taxes and local taxes as well. Under the present law this necessity is avoided. Under it the poor people pay no part of the tax. The small planters pay no part of it. The main burden falls upon the large planters who do the exporting, and by those who sell their wares to Puerto Rico and who reap the profit of that trade.

#### THE TRUSTS CONSIDERED.

But, my fellow citizens, it is claimed by our Democratic friends that this plan for raising revenue was dictated by the tobacco and sugar trusts. This is not true. Common sense itself brands the charge as fallacious and false. The Trusts naturally wish to buy as cheaply as they can. They buy their raw materials in large quantities, and no doubt plan to save, so far as possible, all expense for middle men. They would naturally, therefore, buy their raw materials as directly as possibly from the producers themselves. It is probable, therefore, that most of the raw sugar and tobacco now in Puerto Rico warehouses belong to the Trusts or their brokers. If they have already bought the sugar and tobacco now in the warehouses of Puerto, it would be manifestly to their interest to have these products admitted to the United States free of duty. In no way that I can see could it be profitable to them to have a tariff on these products. Reason dictates, therefore, that if these Trusts have any interest in the matter at all, they would naturally favor immediate Free Trade. Hence I say it is both unreasonable

and untrue that our Democratic friends should claim, as they are now doing, that the Puerto Rico Tariff bill was dictated by the Trusts.

#### CONSTITUTIONAL ARGUMENT AGAIN RESURRECTED.

A Democratic argument without ringing in the Constitution would be an anomaly indeed, and so they dragged it into this Puerto Rico Tariff question. They have taken up the old cry of John C. Calhoun when he sought to force human slavery into the then newly acquired territory of the United States, way back in 1847, when we first began to adopt the doctrine of National Expansion under a Democratic President, and they tell us now, as they told us then, that the Constitution extends automatically over all territory belonging to the United States, and therefore the people of Puerto Rico have a Constitutional right to Free Trade with our Government. That doctrine was repudiated in 1847, and we repudiate it now. As Republicans, we propose to stand with Daniel Webster and against John C. Calhoun, and with Abraham Lincoln and against Jefferson Davis. The Constitution of the United States extends only so far as it is carried by Congressional enactment, and not by its inherent force. This question, my countrymen, is one of the many great problems that was forever settled at Appomatox, and it cannot be galvanized into life again by the Democratic party in the approaching campaign.

The more I have examined into this Puerto Rico Tariff matter, the more I am satisfied that the plan adopted by Congress was the only safe and feasible method of raising the necessary funds to meet the wants of the Government of that newly acquired Island by the Government of the United States, and I am perfectly satisfied that the intelligent voters of the country will take the same view of this much discussed question when they give to it their deliberate, careful thought and intelligent investigation.

#### EXPANSION AND IMPERIALISM.

Men of West Virginia, many of you will remember that during the Civil War the Democratic party called Abraham Lincoln a rail splitter and a usurper. They called Ulysses S. Grant a tanner. They called our soldiers "Lincoln hirelings." They called



the Republican party an "Abolitionist, Negro-loving organization." They called it from '61 to '65 a "Greenback" party, and when we turned the greenbacks into gold, they called us "Gold Bugs." And now, since we are holding on to the islands we won by the war we did not seek, they are calling us "Imperialists." God bless them! let them call us what they please, because they seem to get a vast amount of pleasure out of it. They are like the old farmer who was taken to task by a neighbor for allowing his wife to lick him daily with a broomstick. Said he: "Neighbor, that is all right. It doesn't hurt me a particle, and it does Nancy Jane a mighty sight of good." Let them whine on. Meantime, we will, as a party, go straight forward, doing our full duty to our country as loyal patriots should do. They will find out later on that they cannot check the tide of human progress by calling the Republican party names.

The fact is, my fellow citizens, Abraham Lincoln was the monumental "splitter" of the nineteenth century. He split the Southern Confederacy from stem to gudgeon, and he split the Democratic party into smithereens; and General Grant tanned their hides until they were as yellow as a pumpkin—and the God's truth is, the yellow is in them yet. The soldier of '61 to '65 is still standing on the bridge of the Ship of State, and he will continue to stand there until the old, water-soaked hulk of Democracy is sunk out of sight forever in the National harbor of Progress and Development, and Prosperity and Peace. Of course we are Expansionists; we do not deny the charge. Every living thing on the earth is expanding. It is only the dead, like the Democratic party, that cannot expand. West Virginia is expanding. The Republican party is expanding. Why, my friends, even Fairmont is expanding, because it is among the living, progressive, go-ahead cities of the State. Don't you know, my countrymen, that Washington was an Expansionist? Don't you know that in 1792 he laid the foundation for the acquisition of Oregon as an intregal part of our Republic? Jefferson, the patron saint of the Democratic party, was an Expansionist. He threw his great arms around Louisiana, and thus doubled the National domain. Jackson, another Democratic saint, was an Expansionist. James K. Polk, still another Democratic President, was an Expansionist. In short, it is a fact which cannot be denied that more than two-thirds

of the territory which we have owned and held for half a century was added to the United States while the Democratic party was in power. The large map which I have suspended on the wall in sight of all of you shows in detail when and by whom practically all of the territory now within our National domain, lying west of the Mississippi, was added to the Republic, and all this was done by the Democratic party. Still, we have the modern leaders of the grand old Democratic organization, that has lived and flourished as one of the greatest political organizations the world has ever seen, charging the Republican party with Imperialism because simply it, as the party now in power, is endeavoring to hold on to the possessions won by the soldiers and sailors of the Republic under the leadership of Dewey, and Sampson, and Schley in the recent war with Spain. We, therefore, have the Democratic party of the present standing over against the Democratic party of the past—not because what we are doing is wrong in principle, or has not been endorsed by the leading lights of this country for a hundred years, but because they hope to realize some benefit from it in the campaign upon which we are now entering. Let me say right here, my fellow citizens, that they will fail in this attempt to deceive the people just as they failed in advocating Free Trade with foreign countries, and endeavoring to impose upon the great, progressive American Nation the free and unlimited manufacture of fifty-cent dollars as the only salvation of the country, which four years ago was suffering and starving because of their mismanagement of National affairs. I say again, my friends, that they will fail in this just as they have failed in everything else they have undertaken since the true principles, doctrines and tenets of the Democratic party of Thomas Jefferson have been cast aside, and that historic old party has been ruled by a new set of men upon a new set of doctrines and a new set of ideas.

My fellow citizens, the United States is widening the scope of its influence and power. It stands for universal freedom. It stands for equal rights before the law. It stands against oppression and for the oppressed wherever its navy splits the waves of oceans and seas. It stands for education and civilization. It stands for an open Bible. It stands for free thought and free speech; and it will thus continue to stand in the future as in the past; and ten million fighting men are at its command

to make good its promises to mankind. We have owned Islands ever since the British surrender at Yorktown. We own more of them now, and we are going to hold on to them "sink or swim, live or die, survive or perish." Our men behind the guns know what they are doing. The great Nations are now satisfied that we are "somebody." Sentimentalists cannot shake our faith in ourselves or dampen the loyalty of our American people. We are at the front to stay. Our flag will never be lowered except by American hands at home or abroad. We are going to construct the Nicaragua Canal, and then build a sufficiency of American ships to carry our own products over all the seas. We are following Thomas Jefferson teachings to reach forward and out. We are going to expand wide enough and big enough to hold our own with the greatest Nations beneath the stars. The American people are neither hide-bound nor timid. They have never yet trampled upon any other Nation's rights, and never will; but they respect themselves, and they mean to see to it that others shall respect them also. We are singing the song of liberty wherever our ships sail and our flag floats, and other progressive peoples will take it up, and will ultimately carry it to the earth's remotest bounds. It is catching. It is in the very air we breath. It is spreading. Slavery is going—gone! God intended all peoples to be free, and all of the Monarchies are now loosening their grip upon their subjects. The United States is the flag-ship in the procession that is leading on to victory. The United States is setting the world a higher example of National duty than has hitherto been known. We as a Nation have never sought war, and we are not seeking it now. Because the fathers of the Republic had no foreign policy, is no reason why we should not have one in our day and generation. Civilization certainly should have right of way over barbarism in all lands. We are Anglo-Saxons, and the Anglo-Saxon race will never lay down its weapons until it establishes the blessings of universal freedom in all countries that seek to come under the shadow of the American flag.

My little cymbling-headed Democratic brother, why don't you stop baying at the moon? You unhinged one side of your jaw last campaign howling for 16 to 1,—that is, for the unlimited manufacture of fifty cent dollars, and here you are again trying to unhinge the other corner of your jaw yelling about Expansion and Imperialism. Free Silver was bad enough to father,



but Imperialism will make your party the laughing stock of the world. You now look back upon your 16 to 1 campaign of '96 as a sort of a joke that you perpetrated on the country. You are sorry that you hooked onto that twaddle and nonsense, and a year or so from now you will be sorrier still that you coupled up to the böogy-boo of so called Imperialism. You know as well as I do that there can be no Imperialism in a Republic. Even a Democratic ought to have sense enough to know that. It is therefore simply ridiculous to talk about it. The people are too shrewd to be deceived by such talk as that. You cannot catch a single vote by any such nonsense, and you will find it out to your humiliation and sorrow later on.

How, my dear Democratic brother, don't you go off mad because I am telling you of your weaknesses. I am not mad at you. I am your friend. Don't you believe that I am going to lay even the weight of a feather on the poor, sick, hip-shot, ring-boned, wind-broken and spavined Democratic party. I have not got the heart to do that. I feel like an old Irish friend of mine who had a very sick wife. She was suffering from consumption. One day he brought a Doctor to his home to diagnose her case. He very soon found out what was ailing her, and said, "Pat, I can do nothing to relieve her. Nothing will help her except to send her to a hot country." This statement astounded the good-natured Irishman, and he arose from his seat, went out into the wood yard, got an ax, returned to the room and walked up to the Doctor and said, "Doctor, you tell me that nothing will help her except to send her to a hot country. Take this ax and hit her, for I haven't got the nerve to do it myself." I have too much respect and sympathy and admiration for the Historic old Democratic party to throw stones at it in an ugly and improper way, when, like the Irishman's wife, it is lying in the throes of death. Poor, dear old party! It is going,—gone.

It is painful to the people of the United States to see the Historic party of Thomas Jefferson and James Madison and James Monroe and Andrew Jackson now being prostituted to Populism and Anarchism. Prostituted to fifty cent dollars. Prostituted to opposing that for which it was organized. Prostituted against growth and progress. Prostituted against entering the high seas in competition with the great Nations of the world for the trade and commerce of the Nation. Prostituted to the

rank of simply a protestant organization, always 'protesting against everything of real value to the Nation and the people. Shades of Jefferson, Madison, Monroe and Jackson! what a change. There is now a new set of rulers in the saddle, but the good sense and calm judgment and the patriotism of the people of the Nation will unhorse them again. Fear not. The world is going forward, not backward. Don't allow yourselves to be deceived by the new campaign cry of Imperialism. Nevertheless, I presume that the Democrats of West Virginia and all over the country will line up on this new issue, as they came up smiling for the now discarded doctrine of Free Silver at 16 to 1. As to this, they will find themselves in the attitude of Senator Thurston's calf story that he often tells in his political speeches. A boy, one day, was driving a three months old calf to a pasture. In the roadway he met up with a steer. The calf broke away from him and followed the steer. The boy ran, the calf ran, and he pursued the calf lickety-cut until his breath gave out, when he exclaimed, "Go it, darn you! You will find out your mistake when sucking time comes."

#### WHAT THE REPUBLICAN PARTY IS DOING.

My fellow citizens, the Republican party is going right on from conquering to conquest. It has kept every promise made to the people in its platform of 1896. Under McKinley the country has reached the high-water mark of progress. The United States is now leading the world in productive power. We are now exporting much more than we import. As the old Century goes out, the balance sheet of trade is very largely in our favor. For one hundred years the balance showed but \$300,000,000 in our favor. That is to say, we only gained that amount in a full Century, while during the three years of the present Administration the actual balance in our favor is \$1,400,000,000, or \$1,100,000,000 more in three years than our entire gain during the preceding one hundred years, and yet the Democratic party wants a change. I will tell you, my friends, the level-headed, sensible people of this Republic are going to see to it that there shall be no change. It has been demonstrated twice within the last sixteen years that the Democratic party cannot successfully manage the affairs of this massive country. Why, my fellow citizens, it is so great a job that it is about all the

Republicans can do to run it. We are now selling our products to all the Nations of the earth. McKinley's Administration has changed the map of the world, and in the face of these facts, the Democrats say that McKinley ought to go out and Bryan ought to go in. You might as well go down yonder and attempt to dam the Monongahela River with corn cobs as to try to prevent the re-election of President McKinley. And right here let me tell our Democratic friends another thing: They might as well stand on their heads and try to kick the stars out of the firmament as to try to defeat the Republican party in West Virginia in this year of grace and progress, A. D. 1900. The great "Mountain State" cut the shore lines in 1896, and launched out in the broad sea of Republican progress, and she is out there to stay. She hung her gate on the other post, and the combined strength of Bryanism, Populism, George Washington-Auguinaldoism and the cowboy and the grasshopper catcher from the sage brush of the Northwest cannot lift it off its Republican hinges. West Virginia has developed more potently the past four years than she advanced during the quarter Century preceding, and, in the face of these facts, the Democrats say they ought to be allowed to grapple her by the throat again. Oh, no, gentlemen! the people have too much sense for that.

For the first time in a quarter of a century West Virginia has two Republican Senators in the American Congress, and our public and private interests demand that they should stay there. Our senior Senator sits in the front rank of that great body of American statesmen, and because of his towering abilities has brought renown to the richest State beneath the stars. He is before the people this year for re-election. Let us as men of sense and men of business stand by him, shoulder to shoulder, and place behind him a Legislature so strongly Republican that Democratic sculduggery cannot dare to attempt to count him out, as they sought to do with our junior Senator, who, by the way, is already making for himself and his State a splendid record as a national legislator. Men of West Virginia, let there be no bickering over minor matters in our ranks this year. We have too much at stake to even dream about scratching a Republican ballot at the election in the last year of the century, as her chariot is grandly rolling behind the western hills. It behooves us to not only elect our State ticket



and re-elect Senator Elkins, but above everything else let us resolve to secure a majority in both branches of the Legislature, so that we can wipe out the disgraceful, zig-zag gerrymandered lines that have hung like a midnight pall over West Virginia during the past decade. Do you know, my fellow-citizens, that the Republican party has to roll up 10,000 majority for its State ticket in order to carry the Legislature by a majority of one? This fact alone should brand the Democrats of West Virginia with everlasting infamy, and it has.

#### THE REPUBLICAN PARTY AND THE TRUSTS.

In order to hang to another scarecrow our Democratic friends are claiming that the Republican party belongs to the Trusts. This is not true. This seems to be an age of great combines. It is so in the Old World as well as the New. Capital is combining everywhere. There are good Trusts and bad Trusts. The Republican party always has stood for the interests of the common people. It has never antagonized corporations. It believes in the doctrine of organized effort. It believes that capital has the same right to organize as labor has to organize, but it has always opposed, and always will oppose, any combination of wealthy men that has for its object the trampling upon the rights of the labor of the country. No country can be developed without corporations, and the Republican party therefore has always treated them fairly as it has always treated labor fairly. No political party can prevent wealthy men from combining together, because there are as many Democrats as Republicans in the so-called Trusts of the land. All the Republican party can do, therefore, is to oppose the bad Trusts and favor the good ones, as all good citizens ought to do.

#### STATE MATTERS.

My fellow-citizens, a word or two about State matters and I am done. I am proud to inform you that the public affairs of the State are in a most satisfactory condition. During the past three years large sums of outstanding debts have been collected. The condition of the public treasury never was healthier. The penitentiary has been so splendidly conducted that it is now much more than self-sustaining. From a yearly

outlay of many thousands it is now producing an income of more than \$15,000 every year. The State University, under Republican management, has more than doubled the number of students, and the faculty had to be proportionately increased. Its growth and success is unparalleled in the history of any other State. The Normal schools have all grown in size and efficiency. The public schools are all on the upward grade. The two insane asylums were never conducted so efficiently, cheaply and successfully in all the years of the past. Vast sums of money have been saved to the tax-payers by economic management in the different State offices at the capital. The State Superintendent of Public Schools has reduced the expenditure in printing alone the enormous sum of \$21,315.46 during the three years he has been in office. The large amount of \$78,000 has been saved in public printing and in the purchasing of stationery for the use of the State for the same period. Railroads are building in almost every section of the State. Coal mines are opening at a rate most gratifying to all. The digging of the dusky diamonds from our hillsides are bringing fresh millions of "the needful" into the pockets of our people, and the amount increases wonderfully every year. The song of the saw is heard on every hand. The railroads are overburdened with West Virginia freights. Our people are all employed and they are contented and happy. More than \$50,000,000 of outside capital has been invested in West Virginia since the beginning of the present Republican administration, and still it comes. Times were never better, and business was never so good as now in the whole history of the State. There is a marked improvement along all industrial lines. We have added upwards of 500 mining and manufacturing industries since we assumed control of the State, which have placed over 15,000 of additional toilers on the pay rolls. In three years wages have increased more than twenty per cent., while the general condition of labor was never before so favorable as it is at the present time. Labor, at good wages, is in demand all over the State, and the hum of industry is heard on every hand. Why, then, should our voters even think of making a political change in the management of our business affairs? When the people fully understand the true situation of affairs they will say to the Democratic office-seekers, "Get thee behind us: we have sense enough to let well enough alone."

Yes, my countrymen, with a platform of principles upon which every good citizen can safely stand, and with candidates worthy of its great name and history, there will be welded together into an unconquerable army a majority of the law-abiding, liberty-loving voters of this country, who in the future, as in the past, will stand by the party of Lincoln and Grant and Hayes and Garfield and Arthur and Harrison and McKinley,—the great Republican party which has, under God, made the United States the foremost Nation of the world.

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## W. VA. EDITORIAL ASSOCIATION.

*Address by Governor Atkinson at the Annual Convention,  
Parkersburg, W. Va., May 22, 1900.*

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Subject assigned by the Association: "West Virginia's Present and Prospective Possibilities, and the Work of the Press in the Development and History of the State."

MR. PRESIDENT, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN:—

When Pericles, who was perhaps the greatest of the Athenian statesmen, stood in the suburb of the Kerameikos to deliver the funeral oration of the soldiers who had fallen in the expedition to Samos, he made use of that memorable occasion to describe the glory and grandeur of Athens. It was the first year of the Peloponesian war, and he spoke particularly of the Persian conquests and the development of the culture and genius of the Greeks. In that unparalleled oration, he depicted in glowing colors the true sources of national greatness, and enumerated the titles by which Athens claimed to be the foremost city of the world. He spoke of constitutional greatness; of democratic principles; of the supremacy of law, and the march of human progress. He spoke of the elegance of the private life of the people; the bounteousness of their luxuriant surroundings; of their systems of education; of their highly cultivated tastes; of their admiration and love of the chaste and the beautiful, and of their interchange of ideas and freedom of expression: but above all, he extolled the courage of the Greek soldiers in stand-



ing for principle, and in standing against all comers for their own homes and their own firesides.

My fellow-citizens, we may in many respects adapt the expressions of Pericles as applicable to West Virginia and her people of to-day. If we cannot in everything measure up to Athens' standard under Pericles—which was indeed the golden age of Greece—in many things we are far in advance of her. In general education, in morals, in religion, in literature, in territory, in natural advantages and endowments, in the fertility of our soil, in science,—in short, with the exception of the various departments of the arts, we have extended into realms of which the learned Athenians never even dreamed. The whole world is now within our reach, and we have founded an empire within the limits of a State which fifty years ago was practically a wilderness, and we are now pouring fabulous treasures into the lap of commerce. And notwithstanding all this growth, we are now standing upon the threshold of new discoveries and are at the entrance of an era of dazzling splendor which cannot fail to electrify the human race. The whole world is therefore radiant with hope and we should be happy that we are participants of its benefits, and happier yet that we are to take part in transmitting these benefits committed to our keeping, undimmed and unbroken, to succeeding generations. Our pride should be for humanity and our joy for the world. Therefore amid all the wonders of past achievements and all the splendors of present success, we may turn with swelling hearts to gaze into the boundless future with the earnest conviction that it will, sooner or later, develop an universal brotherhood of man.

But, my friends, I must confine myself more closely to the theme assigned to me upon this important occasion, viz: "West Virginia's Present and Prospective Possibilities, and the work of the Press in the Development and History of the State."

This is a great theme, and my only regret is that the time allotted for the discussion is too limited to allow me to enter into details.

We had in West Virginia June 30, 1899, 2,967 miles of railroads in operation, which cost to construct them more than twenty-five million dollars, and the State receives a-half million dollars taxes from them every year. The fact is, my friends, the railroads pay nearly half of the taxes of the State. There are now under construction in different sections of the State

various railroad lines, which, when completed, will add another thousand miles to West Virginia's trackage. It is therefore safe to assume that within the succeeding twelve months, we will have 4,000 miles of rail roads within our borders. But better still is the fact that more than a score of additional railroad companies have recently been chartered, and it is only a question of a brief period of time for every county within our Commonwealth to be traversed by the iron horse. Where the whistle of the locomotive is heard, the shriek of the panther and the scream of the eagle are heard no more forever. Civilization and development follow the iron rail as unerringly as the magnetic needle reaches for the pole. Come railroads—go ignorance and non-action. Come lightning express trains—go the haw-eater and the whipporwill. Come electric lights—gone the pine torch and the tallow-dip. Come education and intellectual development—gone the moccasin, the hunting-shirt, the shot-pouch and the lop-eared hound. The day is dawning, my countrymen, when all of the children of the State will be furnished ten months free school privileges every year, and all of them will be as neatly clad and cared for as the sons and daughters of the multi-millionaires of the land. Whatever, therefore, opens communication and creates interchange of ideas among all of the people, counteracts the sanguinary tendencies of mankind and broadens the field of usefulness of all.

The year of 1899 was the high-water mark of the State in the production of coal and coke, which will ever be our principal industries. The number of days worked exceeded that of any previous year. The output of coal was nearly 19,000,000 long tons, exceeding the previous year by 2,500,000 tons. We are now the third State in coal production, and will take second place from Illinois within the next twelve months. Our output of coke for 1899 was 1,900,000 tons. As a coke producer we now hold second place, and we will distance Pennsylvania within the next five years.

In oil production we are easily the first of all the States. We turned out last year upwards of 18,000,000 barrels of white sand oil, and the industry is with us but an infant yet. The trend of oil capital is all towards West Virginia, because oil men know that the 500,000,000 barrels of the oleaginous fluid which our State has already produced, is but a dipperfull taken

from the oily ocean that lies concealed beneath our mountains and our hills.

Gas is also by no means the least of our natural resources. We find it everywhere we dig. In fact, so much of it has been discovered that we don't know what to do with it. If the West Virginia natural gas could be properly utilized, it would furnish the necessary fuel to drive all the wheels on the Continent.

We have within the limits of the "Mountain State" perhaps 8,000,000 acres of what may be practically termed virgin forests, which embrace all the classes of hard and soft woods. No other State, in my judgment, can offer opportunities to the lumbermen comparable with those of West Virginia. Already the song of the saw is heard in every vale that has thus far been penetrated by railroads. More railroads—more lumber camps, and more wealth for the citizens who hold the titles to these undeveloped forests.

Viewed from an agricultural and horticultural stand point, our State is also making rapid progress. As our husbandmen adopt more intensive systems of cultivating fewer acres upon which paying crops are practically certain, they will soon become the happiest and most prosperous class of people within our borders. Our excellent climate, rich soil, nearness to the great markets, our very few crop failures and our great diversity of products, are a few of the many reasons why agriculture, if properly followed, will prove as profitable in West Virginia as in any other State in the Union.

The improvement in our domestic animals has also been very remarkable in the last few years, and the importance and desirability of procuring thorough-bred sires is becoming general throughout the State. With this improvement in breeding has already come increased profits to the stock raisers, and the natural result is the wiping out of mortgages and the liberation of the farmer from interest bearing burdens, which in the years ago were all too common for the common good.

My fellow citizens, fruit growing is by no means an insignificant industry in West Virginia. Apples, peaches, plums, grapes, and other smaller fruits are extensively produced in some localities. In round numbers, the state now has about 3,000,000 bearing apple trees, producing annually about 5,000,000 bushels; 470,000 bearing peach trees, producing annually about 400,000 bushels; 130,000 bearing cherry trees, producing an-



nually about 60,000 bushels; 25,000 bearing pear trees, producing annually about 2,000 bushels; 1,300 bearing apricot trees, producing annually about 600 bushels; 35,000 bearing plum and prune trees, producing annually 4,000 bushels.

There are in the State 30 or more commercial nurseries, covering about 800 acres of land. This represents alone an invested capital of \$135,000. Large numbers of men and women and children are employed in them. There are in addition 25 or more commercial florists, whose establishments represent about \$80,000.

The value of all this fruit aggregates \$2,404,600. To it may be added \$200,000 for garden crops, and \$270,000 for miscellaneous crops, making a total of nearly \$4,000,000 as the value of the annual fruit production of the State.

Mr. President, I am informed by the State's Commissioner of Labor—a man thoroughly equipped for the position he fills—that there are marked improvements along all industrial lines in West Virginia. There were full five hundred more mining and manufacturing industries January 1, 1900, than were in existence at the beginning of the year 1897, with the investment of several millions of additional capital and employing several thousand more laborers; and the advancement of 1899 over 1898 is also most encouraging to all of our people.

There have been no reductions in wages, but a continuous advance along the whole line of our mining, lumbering and manufacturing institutions. The increase in wage rates is about 20 per cent., and the increase of employees is about 35 per cent. over the preceding year. Commissioner Barton officially informs me that the general condition of labor in West Virginia was never before so favorable as it is at the present time. Laboring men are in demand all over the State. Therefore none need remain idle, except as a matter of choice. Permanent places in railroad building, in lumber camps, and in coal mines are now going begging. More than a thousand coal miners could now secure good paying jobs in the coal regions of the State, if they would voluntarily take up their lamps, their shovels, and their picks.

This, Mr. President, is only a mere outline of the present condition of West Virginia development. I speak authoritatively when I say that no other State in the Union is keeping pace with us. A carefully prepared estimate shows that in the

neighborhood of \$25,000,000 of capital was invested by outsiders in West Virginia industries during the year 1899. There is no boom about our growth. On the contrary, it is steady, solid, substantial. The value of our wonderful resources is not fictitious, but substantial and real. This being true, it is difficult to determine what our possibilities as a State may be. It is enough to say, however, that they are great, and that no capitalist, therefore, can err by coming among us and lend a hand in our marvelous development. By so doing he will advance his own interest as well as ours.

And now, Mr. President, to what extent has the press of the State figured in its growth and progress? In 1638, Stephen Daye, an English printer, arrived at Boston, bringing a font of types, and in the following year set up a printing press at Cambridge. The first American publication was an almanac calculated for New England and bearing the date of 1639. From this beginning the "art preservative" began to spread, and now we find a printing press in every town throughout the land. Sir William Berkeley, of Virginia, was lamentably wrong and narrow in his outlook in 1671, when he said: "I thank God there are no free schools nor printing; and I hope we shall not have these hundred years; for learning has brought disobedience, and heresy, and sects into the world, and printing has divulged them and libels against the best government. God keep us from both." Looking back two hundred years we wonder that even then one could be so hidebound as to allow himself to utter such a sentiment as that. The press is the leading educator in all lands to-day. It is essential to progress and good government everywhere. It is a mighty lever to uplift all nations and all peoples. Newspapers and books have awakened the sleeping talents of millions, and have lifted them to higher conceptions of life and duty. Paper bullets of the brain are more powerful in the cause of truth than grape and canister belched from the muzzles of 76-pound Krupp guns. Newspapers are necessary for the advancement of the interests of all classes of men, and this is why they are now so numerous in the civilized sections of the world. Thirty years ago, when I was the publisher of a weekly newspaper in West Virginia, such publications were by no means numerous, but now one or more are issued in every county in the State, and in every city of 5,000 inhabitants we have the daily newspaper carrying daily messages to

every household. These publications have attracted the attention of men of means in other and older Commonwealths, and have done much to induce them to cast their lots with us in the wealthy "Mountain State" of the great Republic. Too much credit and praise, therefore, cannot be given to the West Virginia newspapers for what they have done and are now doing for our people, from the brickyards of Hancock county to the great Chattaroi, and from the coal fields of McDowell to the rock-crowned ridges of the Potomac.

On the whole, my fellow citizens, all of us are justly proud of our Mountain State, because mountains are useful, healthful, beautiful, grand. They inspire their inhabitants to higher aims and purposes in life. They are essential to one's growth, development and happiness. Man naturally longs for mountain air and mountain freedom, because mountaineers are always free. Plow down your mountains and your hills, and the world will become a desert. They furnish fountains for our rivers, timber for our dwellings, stones for our quarries, fields for our herds, scenery for our people, minerals for our wealth; they break the deadly sweep of the tornado, and in ways without number they add to our comfort and enjoyment. Above the crests of our West Virginia hills shines the eternal sun as he rolls his fiery chariot across the sky. The silver streams wind their meandering ways down the slopes murmuring their endless songs. The majestic rivers sweep through the gorges, canyons and vales as they drive ever onward toward the seas. The music of the mountain songsters, as they leap from bough to bough of the forest trees along the hills, ceases only by the coming of the night. The roar of the cataracts lulls our people to restful repose and awakes them from their slumbers at the dawning of the morn. These majestic West Virginia mountains have withstood the storms of the centuries, and will stand amid the sunshine of millennial glory. Great cities, massive temples, granite cathedrals will sooner or later crumble into dust. The pyramids will finally fall. The Sphinx will be gnawed asunder by the tooth of time. The globe itself may ultimately melt with fervent heat. The sun may drag along the jarring heavens and refuse to shine. The light of the stars may pale away. The moon may roll up the rending sky and hang her latent livery on the wings of the dying night; but these West Virginia hills will continue to stand until the centuries cease to roll.



Mr. President, we have in the "Mountain State" no malaria, no grasshoppers, no mosquitos, no razor-backed hogs, no cyclones, no deep snows, no long winters, no glaziers, and panthers and bears and wolves and foxes are rapidly going and are well nigh gone. We have no State debt; taxes are reasonable; churches are flourishing; our schools are as good as the best; we have over a million population; upwards of a million dollars in our treasury, and yet we have but fairly started into business. Talk about West Virginia, my brothers, she is to-day the rush-light star of the Republic. She is the coming Commonwealth of the Continent. She is the hub of the universe in natural wealth. She is the flag-ship in the procession of progress. She is the wonder of the century, and is the favored State for young men to live in and for old men to die in. She is the Eldorado of the coming century. Her coal fields are richer than the gold mines of the Transvaal. Her timber is taller than the cedars of Lebanon, and her oil pools are more valuable than the gems of Golconda or the silver of the Klondyke. We have the watermellon and the pomegranite and the grape. We have the milk, the honey and the peach. We have tall men, sun-crowned and brawned and brave, and the prettiest, happiest, sweetest women beneath the stars. Our rock-ribbed mountains tower in the sunlight and catch the first rays of the rising and the last rays of the setting sun. Our valleys are as charming as Scotland's vales, and our water is as limpid as the fountain of Treve at Rome, and he who tastes of it will return again.

This, my friends, is West Virginia, and the newspapers more than any other factor have made it such. Hail, all hail to the printers art! Hail and farewell ye knights of the tripod and the quill! (Prolonged applause).

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#### DECORATION DAY MESSAGE.

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EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,  
CHARLESTON, W. VA., May 23, 1900.

EDITOR "Post,"

Morgantown, W. Va.

Responding to your courteous request for a short message

to the "old soldiers" for your "Decoration Day" edition, I beg leave to say that language is inadequate to express my appreciation of the sacrifices they made for mankind in the late Civil War. As we get farther from that awful conflict, we love them more and admire them greater. It is but a faint expression of gratitude for us to cover the graves of their dead with May-day flowers. There is no better title to enduring fame than the four years' service they gave to their country to preserve its constitution and its flag.

Col. Ingersoll expressed a volume in this single sentence: "Our soldiers rolled away the stone from the door of the sepulcher of progress." To-day we have peace and universal freedom, and our soldiers gave us both. They saved the South as well as the North, and no one can now tell where the North ends or the South begins. Through their patriotic efforts the chasm which once divided our country into sections has been arched by the bow of fraternity and love. "Cheers for the living, tears for the dead."

Very truly yours,

G. W. ATKINSON,  
Governor.

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## CONVICT LABOR.

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EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,  
Charleston, W. Va., May 26, 1900

MESSRS. S. B. ELKINS AND N. B. SCOTT,  
United States Senators,  
Washington, D. C.

MY DEAR SENATORS—

Warden Hawk informs me that the House of Representatives, a few days ago, passed two important bills reported by the Committee on Labor, which extends the eight-hour law to all laborers employed under contract on Government work, and also to prohibit interstate traffic in prison-made goods. It is needless for me to say to both of you that the passage of this bill will greatly embarrass us in the management of our State prison. When the present administration came into office it

was costing the tax-payers of the State about \$2,000 per month to carry on that institution. For the past six or eight months the State has been receiving a revenue of from \$1,500 to \$2,000 per month over and above all the expenses connected with the institution. This revenue, as a matter of course, comes to the State under the contract labor system. I have always had doubts in my mind of the propriety of any State allowing penitentiary made articles to come in competition with honest, free labor, and yet there is another side to the question; namely, the only way to maintain good discipline in a penitentiary is to work the convicts a reasonable number of hours per day, and allow them extra compensation for any additional time above the required hours that they may be employed. Warden Hawk has been remarkably successful, both in the discipline of the institution and the business manner in which he has conducted it. It is a great advantage to our tax-payers to have an income of \$2,000 per month instead of an outlay of \$2,000 per month, as is the case at present. You will find that the House passed the bills referred to under a suspension of the rules, which indicates the sentiment of the popular branch of Congress. Entertaining the views I do on the subject I cannot well afford to say that I am openly opposed to the passage of the bill, but instead of into effect ninety days after its passage it should be amended so as to take effect not less than one year after its passage. This will give all penitentiaries ample time to allow contractors of prison labor to close out their business without loss. The contractors in our institution have unfilled contracts running perhaps a year at least ahead. It would, therefore, be a great hardship upon them to stop the contract system without giving them at least a year's time to arrange for the same.

I consider this a very important question, and worthy of the serious consideration of the Senate. I hope, therefore, it will be your pleasure to give it your thoughtful attention.

Very respectfully yours,

G. W. ATKINSON,  
Governor.



## SENATOR W. T. WILLEY IN PUBLIC LIFE.

*Remarks of Governor G. W. Atkinson, at Morgantown, W. Va.,  
May 27, 1900, at a Public Meeting in Memory of that  
Distinguished Citizen.*

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MY FRIENDS:—

The life of every man is made up of moments, moments are made up of thoughts, thoughts are developed into acts, acts into deeds, and thus along the highway of life, we gather them and drop them by the wayside. The weed, the flower, the fruit, the trees spring up along our pathways, and thus life's records are left and are as imperishable as the stars. The crossing of ex-United States Senator Waitman T. Willey marked the passage of, in my judgment, the greatest Virginian who was born and brought up west of the Blue Ridge. I make this statement thoughtfully and without intentional disparagement to the galaxy of great men who were contemporaneous with him. There were the two Summers', Philip Doddridge, Bishop Morris, the McComases, the Jacksons, Senator Carlisle, and still others, all of whom were men of unusual abilities and attainments. Indeed, they were really great men and all of them left their impress upon the times in which they lived. But with due respect to their memories—for all of them have crossed the deep, dark river of death into the other life beyond—I am candid when I say, that in the elements which go to make up the truly great character, Mr. Willey outranked them all,

Great learning, large attainments and proud achievements, in and of themselves, do not necessarily mark the greatest character in man. The achievements of the orator, the statesman, the legislator, the soldier, do not always alone bring to men enduring fame. There is still something in the make up of an individual that is more lasting and that is humility of life and conduct, "charity, which vaunteth not itself and is not puffed up", and love and sympathy for one's fellows,—these make one's record as enduring as the sun. These qualities Mr. Willey possessed to a greater extent, perhaps, than any other of his associates in the early history of our State. No history of West

Virginia can ever be written, covering the generation beginning with the late civil war, without noting, in almost every chapter, the acts, the utterances, the deeds, and the achievements of Waitman T. Willey, who for a score of years preceding was invariably referred to as "the Whig Wheel-Horse of the West". For more than a half century prior to his death he was a towering figure in the public affairs of his native State.

Senator Willey entered upon a public career educationally equipped, having had the best college training then given west of the Alleghenies. With honesty of purpose as his unfaltering guide, he forged his way steadily to the front. Modest and retiring, he never pushed himself, but the people soon learned that within him was every essential element of a man, and they chose him as a leader and stood by him to the last. In every public act he was guided invariably by the stars of faith and right. Thoughtful, conscientious, conservative, just in all things, and helpful to all who sought his counsel, they found in him no ins and outs. His every public act—and this statement will not be questioned—was measured wholly and always by the plumb line of duty and the right.

At the bar, in the legislative halls of both Virginias, in constitutional conventions, upon the platform and the hustings, and in the Senate of the United States, he measured up to the stature of real greatness; and none of his opponents have ever essayed to charge that he was anything but a model in excellence and a model of goodness in them all. Of all the prominent public men I ever knew, Senator Willey was the cleanest, squarest, truest and the best. His promises were guarded by him with as much sacredness as his life; and to the day of his death, one could point to his tall, stooped figure and say, there is one man who spent more than fifty years in public places and yet never told a lie. Can this much be truthfully said of any other really prominent public servant in this or any other State?

As an orator Mr. Willey had no peer among all the public men I ever knew. In the gift, which actors call "heart", he stood supreme. He could move an audience at his will. In discussion and debate, he was an antagonist dangerous to meet. He was as resistless as a whirlwind and yet was as gentle as a woman and as tender-hearted as a child. His powers of utterance on the rostrum or before a jury were rarely found in men.

His rhetoric was as chaste as violets. His climaxes were overwhelming. His sentiments sublime.

Gone from the throng of the living, his long and useful career stands out boldly as a model, and no one can err by following in his footsteps. Religious, sympathetic in every fiber of his make-up and generous to a fault, he leaves behind him as a heritage to the people of his State, a character as spotless as a maiden's and as unsullied as a ray of light. Such men are rare. Such men are truly great.

"He was a man of form and mein imposing,  
And courteous as kingly courts suggest;  
While friends all confidence in him reposing,  
Did oft among the good, esteem him best.

"He was a man, who was honored justly,  
A statesman skilled in all traditions lore:  
In law and usage he was never rusty,  
And counted his followers by the score.

"He taught the truths of love and duty,  
By precept and example, one by one,  
And showed by his sincerity their beauty—  
In dignity and force, excelled by none.

"Upright and honest and unostentatious,  
And kind and generous to friend and foe,  
He ne'er was so surprised that word ungracious  
Fell from his lips to wound, as with a blow.

"Such was our friend, who has gone before us,  
Whose memory revered, and worth we tell;  
But I AM THAT I AM will some day restore us,  
Our revered and lost, with him for aye to dwell."

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## ANNUAL ADDRESS.

*By Governor George W. Atkinson, L.L. B., L.L. D., of West  
Virginia, Before the Illinois College of Law,  
Chicago, May 31, 1900.*

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MR. PRESIDENT, YOUNG GENTLEMEN OF THE GRADUATING CLASS,  
OF 1900, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN:—

Pericles, perhaps the greatest of the Athenian statesmen, in delivering the funeral oration of the Greek soldiers who fell in



the expedition to Samos, referred in detail to what he termed the glory and grandeur of Athens. He spoke not only of the patriotism of the Greek soldiers, but of the progress that had been made by the Athenians in architecture, literature, mathematics, and the arts. He, in short, extolled his people as models for all the centuries that were yet to come. In looking back over the centuries which have come and gone, we find that Pericles, in that great oration, was both right and wrong; right in his claim that in patriotism and loyalty to principle the ancient Greek has never been, and never will be, surpassed. He was right also that the Greek in that day had climbed high up on the ladder of literature, letters, learning and the arts; but he was forever wrong in his conclusion that in every respect they could never be surpassed as a Nation and a people. Why, my friends, in general education, in morals, in religion, in literature, in science, in territory, in natural advantages and endowments, our American people have extended into realms of which the learned Athenians never even dreamed. The whole world is now within our reach. Within the limits of a century our star has risen to one of the first magnitude, and we are now pouring fabulous treasures into the lap of commerce. And yet, we are standing upon the threshold of new discoveries, and are at the entrance of an era of dazzling splendor which cannot fail to electrify the human race. The whole world is now radiant with hope, and we should be happy that we are participants of its benefits, and happier still that we are to take part in transmitting these benefits committed to our keeping, untarnished and undimmed, to succeeding generations.

I esteem it both a privilege and a pleasure, young gentlemen, through the kindness of your President, whom I have personally known for a considerable number of years, to be permitted to talk to you on this, your graduation day. We hail from the West Virginia hills, some of which are so high that it requires two men to see to the tops of them. Above their crests shines the eternal sun as he rolls his chariot across the sky. The silver streams wind their meandering ways down the slopes murmuring their endless songs. The majestic rivers sweep through the gorges, canyons and vales as they drive ever onward to the sea. The music of our mountain songsters, as they leap from bough to bough of the forest trees along the hills, ceases only with the coming of the night. The roar of the

cataracts lulls our people to restful repose, and awakes them from their slumbers at the dawning of the morn. Those majestic West Virginia mountains have withstood the storms of the centuries and will continue to stand amid the sunshine of millennial glory. Our coal fields are richer than the gold mines of the Transvaal; our timber is taller than the cedars of Lebanon; our oil pools are more valuable than the gems of Golconda or the silver of the Klondyke. We have the water melon, the pomegranite and the grape. We have the milk, the honey and the peach. We have tall men, suncrowned and brawned and braye, and the prettiest, happiest, sweetest women beneath the stars.

I have told you all this about the former home and the class of associates of your President, because I know he is entirely too modest to allude to it himself. Mark you, my friends, this talk is private, because I don't desire to depopulate Chicago, nor do I want all of you to rush to West Virginia, hang out your shingles and revolutionize the practice of the law. And yet, with my well known proverbial modesty, you will pardon me for saying that West Virginia is a superb State for young men to live in, and for old men to die in.

The law, my young friends, is the greatest of all the professions, because it requires harder and deeper study to master its details and apply them successfully. A physician can keep mum, look wise and thus cause his patient to believe that he knows all about one's ailments and afflictions. A clergyman can revamp other men's thoughts and create a powerful impression in the pulpit; but the poor lawyer has to meet all comers, and everybody in the court room, after he utters a few sentences, will very soon know whether he understands the law and the facts in his case. There can be no successful charlatan-ism in the practice of our profession. A good lawyer is soon found out, and a bad one sooner. A good lawyer cannot fail to make a record, and so will the bad. One wins his cases—the other loses. One succeeds—the other fails. Hence the necessity of thorough legal training. Only a genius can suck enough law out of his learned opponent to enable him to deceive a court and a jury and thus score a victory in a court-house contest. Geniuses are few, consequently every lawyer should master all of the details of his case before he enters the court room, if he may hope for victory. Law schools are essential, my young friends, be-

cause they imprint upon the mind principles that are at all times essential to know and must be applied in every important trial. Moreover, this training trees out the intellect, which enables one to act quickly when cornered by an antagonist who has mastered his case. Picked up legal training is in no respect equal to the workaday drill of the law school. The one is superficial—the other is thorough. The technique of the profession can only be acquired and mastered in the law school or college. Hence the necessity for the college training. The LL. B. and the LL. M. are the fellows to keep an eye on in the trial of a case. Like Cassius, as a rule, they are lean and hungry, because they know how to think and discriminate and act. The great lawyer is one who can see a point quickly and then drive it home with a single blow. Such an one does not necessarily strike below the belt, but he lands unerringly on the solar plexus at every drive. Watch him, or you will go down and out in every round and under at the last.

The law, my friends, is both a science and an art. As a science it teaches all of the principles involved in the right and the wrong. As an art it teaches how to apply these principles in separating right from wrong. A single word definition of law is "right". Therefore law is right, and the application of it is to require every one to be right and remain right. Equity is right; equity follows the law, therefore law is right. Blackstone's short definition of law can never be improved upon—"Law is a rule of action \* \* \* \* \* prescribing what is right and prohibiting what is wrong." Reason is the life of the law; nay, the common law itself is nothing else but reason. The law, therefore, is the perfection of reason. Our human laws are but the copies, more or less imperfect, of the eternal laws so far as we can read them. The law, therefore, is the last result of human wisdom acting upon human experience for the benefit of the public, and where law ends tyranny begins. The law has honored all the civilized world, and the people should never fail to honor it. Hail, all hail to the Knights of Blackstone who go out from this school to-day! You will find many ups and downs when you lock horns with your brethren in the saw-dust and the judge upon the wool-sack. [The speaker introduced a laughable anecdote of an old lawyer's advice to his son, who had just started into the practice for himself.]

My advice to you, young gentlemen, to-day, as you leave



this school, is to take with composure whatever may come to you. All ambitious men aim high, but seldom reach their highest expectations. Some men, however, go about their work blindly and with no definite purpose in life. It seems to me to be a crime for people to always mean well, and yet never reach their well meaning.

The man who accomplishes the most, is the one who sees things as they are, and thus takes a vigorous hand to make the most of the circumstances which come within his reach. The man who achieves the greatest good, is the one who entertains the highest ideals, and then endeavors to put these ideals into practical effect.

Success, as I understand it, lies in being in perfect harmony with one's undertakings. Things may, for a time, appear out of joint; and one may not find his work in harmony with his expectations, but if he is true to his calling, it will finally result for the best. Let me tell you, young gentlemen, the world is proud of those who are in love with their work, no matter what it may be.

Some one has said, and I think aptly, that the old maxim of "a penny saved is better than a penny earned," yet it is not altogether correct. A penny which has been properly earned, and judiciously expended, in my judgment, is a far better maxim than the one above mentioned, which is so generally accepted as correct political economy. Money saved frequently results in loss to its owner. The judicious expenditure of money is the basis of individual and national prosperity. The successful man does both—he saves and invests. One always supplements the other. The men who win success in life are not those who wait until all methods are proven successes, but rather those who ask only an even chance, and join the procession while it is passing. If I were as young as you, my young friends, I would hasten to take out an endowment policy of confidence in myself, and I would resolve to take a hand in whatever might come before me. Conservatism may do for old men, but young men must have grit and gumption, and nerve enough to assert themselves, and hold the positions they have rightfully taken. I urge you, therefore, to allow no one, old or young, to rob you of that which justly belongs to you. Allow no one to crowd you out of line. Stand firmly for that which is justly and hon-

estly your own. Stand for your rights, as Patrick Henry expressed it, "Sink or swim, live or die, survive or perish."

My friends, these diplomas mean much to you. They show that you have equipped yourselves for your life-work. They testify that you are not mountebanks or charlatans. The time was when men could, in a way, practice the legal profession without knowledge, or learning, or character. The time was when men could win a fair degree of success, even in all of the learned professions, with limited educations; but that time has passed. The day of raw-leather men has gone by forever; and we are glad that it is so. Education is now demanded, not only in the learned professions, but in every branch of business and trade as well. I once heard Henry Ward Beecher say that even "Mortar is better when mixed with brains," and he was right.

My fellow citizens, the history of the world, from Adam down to McKinley, teaches the fact that true merit will always be rewarded. It is sometimes tardy in its coming, but it will come at last to all who are truly meritorious and deserving. The masses of the people are always fair and honest, and they will, sooner or later, award to every one of you your just deserts. Then, my young friends, let me advise you not to undertake to try to deceive the people, because they will surely find you out. They will "get onto you," as the boys say on the streets. Mr. Lincoln aptly said: "You can deceive all the people part of the time; you can deceive part of the people all the time; but you can't deceive all the people all the time."

When you begin to wrestle seriously with the world, you will find that great men do not grow upon parlor carpets any more than trees grow in hot-beds. Great men are made by rubbing up against the moving, throbbing mass of mankind, just as the trees are made to grow and flourish and take deeper and firmer roots, because of the winds and the storms that beat against them on the mountain crests. Just so it is with the men of this world, my friends.

You will find also that in all of life's struggles, courage will be essential to success in your callings as lawyers at the bar of justice. Not John L. Sullivan courage; I don't mean that. That is brute courage, and you will find that there is not much in that, my friends. You should, however, have enough of that sort of courage to protect your manhood, your honor, your homes,

and your firesides, and no more. The braggard and the bully, like the raw-leather man, are back numbers. The courage that you will need most is moral courage,—the courage to be just, the courage to do right, the courage to stand for principle, the courage to be honest every hour in the day, and every day in the week.

An old sailor once said: “Messmates, I want to tell you that God Almighty has so arranged things in this world that it about pays to do right.”

The little boy who saw the water breaking through the dykes yonder in the lowlands of Holland and promptly stopped the leak with clay, to my mind revealed a finer fiber and a braver record than Arnold Winklereid, who, when at the head of the Swiss army, shouted to the enemy, “make way for liberty,” and rushing upon the bayonets of the enemy made way for liberty and died.

The little Scotch peasant girl—Margaret Graham—who by Claverhouse’s order was tied to a stake on the beach when the tide was out, because she would not renounce her belief in the Christian religion, and was overwhelmed by the tide, by that one act proved her courage to be greater than Chambronne’s when he shouted to the British, “The guard will die, but it will never surrender.”

The watchman at Pompeii, buried at his post by the molten lava from Vesuvius, tells the Roman story in more eloquent language than the ruins of the Colosseum. And brave Herndon, standing upon the bow of his ship, doing all he could to save his crew, and choosing death to dishonor, is a grander picture of true, heroic temper than Julius Cæsar leading his legions to victory, or the conquering Corsican at the Bridge of Lodi. This, my brothers, is the sort of courage you will need. [The speaker also used one of Mr. Moody’s very effective illustrations, which was taken from ancient history.]

Two more thoughts and I am done. The first of these thoughts is, that Divine Providence has so arranged things in this life that a narrow-minded, pompous, pop-eyed, pigeon livered bigot cannot amount to much in this world. What mankind wants above everything else is heart, soul, sympathy. Some men have no hearts—they only have gizzards. I know some men myself, whose souls are so small that a million of them can revolve on the point of a cambric needle without



touching elbows. If you hope to win in this world, my young friends, you must have sympathy—a fellow-feeling for somebody besides yourselves.

But you may say there is nothing but sentiment in sympathy. You are mistaken. It is the great power, unseen though it may be, that is yet to reform this world. It is the lever by which all classes may be raised to a higher plane of intelligence and usefulness. The reason that Shakespeare's poems are read second only to the Bible itself, is because of the vein of sympathy which runs through almost every line of every poem. He seemingly stretches out his great arms and throws them around the people and draws them to his bosom, which is ever throbbing with sympathy and love. Your popularity and your success will depend largely upon the amount of sympathy you show towards you fellowmen.

I know you will pardon this illustration: I have stood on the summit of the lofty hill in the rear of my home at Wheeling, and have heard peal after peal of the mighty thunder, which seemed to shake the mountains to their bases. This to me was grand—awfully grand. Standing there, I have seen flash after flash of lightning as they shot athwart both valley and sky. This, too, was grand. Standing there, I have heard the escaping of steam from the massive steamboats, as they plowed the bosom of the majestic Ohio, as it swept past my home on its meandering way to the sea. This, also, was grand. Standing there, I have heard the shrill whistle of the locomotive, as it dashed along valley and hill-side, and through the very mountains themselves, carrying passengers forty miles an hour from sea to sea. This, likewise, was grand. All these things were grand,—awfully grand; but they are nothing, absolutely nothing, in comparison with the wailings of the human heart, which arouse in one's bosoms a desire to relieve another's sorrows and bind up another's wounds.

The lower animals have feeling, but they have no fellow feeling. I have myself seen the ox eating hay in his stall, when his yoke-mate lay dying by his side.

It is said that the wounded deer sheds tears. This may be true; but it is left for man alone, by sympathy, to divide another's sorrows and double another's joys.

You may place two pianos in a room—one being an exact multiple of the other—and leave one of them uncovered and open

up the other. Let some one place his ear upon the uncovered instrument, and let another touch a key of the other instrument, and the man with his ear upon the casing of the uncovered piano will hear the sound of the self-same note. This is the philosophy of harmonics. It is strange, passing strange, but it is stranger still how it is and why it is, that the strings of one man's heart will vibrate to those of another, and how woe awakes woe and grief begets pain.

This, my friends, is sympathy in the fullness of its sweep, and this is the great unseen power which will yet regenerate the world. My brother, my friend, if you have not begun to cultivate this element in your nature, I beg of you to begin it now before you enter upon your great mission of the practice of the law.

The other thought which I desired to leave with you is the statement that *work wins*. Daniel Webster once said, "In all the learned professions, there is always room on top." He meant to convey the impression that all the lower grade positions and places are crowded, and he was forever right. Great as he was, he never uttered a nobler truism than that.

I once saw a placard on the wall of a law office which read like this, as well as I can recall it, "Lost, somewhere between the hours of 9 A. M. and 6 P. M. to-day, one golden hour of time. No reward is offered for its recovery, because it is gone forever." I am sure, my young friends, you will catch the force of the lesson of that advertisement.

With all the emphasis that I can command I want to impress upon your minds to-night the force and truthfulness of the statement that work, and nothing but persistent work, will procure success for you in the careers upon which you are now entering. Men may be born rich, but they cannot be born great. No lawyer, no physician, no clergyman, no statesmen, no farmer, no mechanic ever reached success by loafing or lounging precious time away. That is not the way the gladiator prepared himself for the amphitheatre at Rome, when nearly all the inhabitants of that great city were present to witness his daring feats of courage, nerve and muscle. That is not the way that John Milton wrote "Paradise Lost," the grandest epic poem of the centuries. That is not the way that Henry Thomas Buckle laid the foundation of and gathered the material for the most remarkable history ever written by mor-

tal hands. That is not the way that Demosthenes and Pericles prepared themselves for the Athenean rostrum, and who, when they spoke, swayed the people at their wills. That is not the way that Hannibal and Scipio and Alexander the Great and Julius Cæsar and Frederick the Second and Napoleon the First prepared themselves for the command of great armies, the very mention of whose names in battle created excitement, fear and consternation in the ranks of their enemies. That is not the way that Copernicus and Kepler and Rosse and Newton surveyed the heavens, and with their massive telescopes brought the remotest stars almost within the shadows of their homes. That is not the way that Phidias and Praxitiles and Michael Angelo and our own great Hiram Powers, with chisel and brush, worked their ways through life, and left behind them monuments more enduring than the marble they sculptured and the pictures they painted, and names as imperishable as brass.

No, my friends, all of these distinguished men whose names I have mentioned, and all other great men of all ages and nationalities, worked their ways to fame, to fortune and success. They dug out the nuggets of wisdom which adorned their lives and characters from the great mountain of knowledge, which a wise and beneficent Creator has placed within the reach of all.

Young gentlemen, hear me. If you expect to attain success in life, let me tell you it can only be done by working early and late. "There is no royal road to learning." This proverb is as true as the Gospel of Grace.

At the risk of the charge of being prolix, I am going to offer one thought more, and it is this: The wise builder builds for the future. There is nothing enduring in this world but God and His laws. The stars that shone upon your cradles will shine upon your graves; the hills that cast their shadows upon your playgrounds will also cast them upon your biers as loved ones take you to your tombs. Darkness is closing over the land of Solon and Lyeurgus. The hills that echoed the eloquence of Pericles are almost unknown to-day. The groves in which Socrates and Plato prepared their philosophy have all been razed to the earth. The grand cities, temples and obelisks of antiquity, which were intended to immortalize their builders, have nearly crumbled into dust; but the names and the deeds of Paul, and Baxter, and Bunyan, and men of that class, will live on and on forever.



I repeat, my young friends, the wise men of to-day will build for eternity. Decay is written upon everything about us. Mausoleums, like everything earthly, must give way under the tooth of time. Even the globe itself must, sooner or later, melt with fervent heat. The sun unheeded will drag along the jarring heavens and refuse to shine. The light of the stars will pale away. The moon will roll up the rending sky and hang her latent livery on the wings of the dying night; but if we as individual men and women have builded well, our work will remain indestructable, immutable, immortal, [panoplied in perpetual glory, unaged by centuries, unmarred by change, and as eternal as God.

We look into the future and hail the coming of the morn, radiant and effulgent, when the waves of the sea will become the crystal cords of a grand organ, on which the fingers of everlasting joy will peal the grand march of a world redeemed to God.

"Keep pushing, 'tis wiser than sitting aside  
And dreaming and sighing and waiting the tide;  
In life's busy conflict, those only prevail  
Who daily press onward and never say fail.

"With an eye always open, a tongue that's not dumb,  
A heart that will never to sorrow succumb;  
In storm or in sunshine, whatever assail,  
Keep pressing right onward, and never say fail.

"The spirits of angels are happy I know  
As higher and higher in glory they go;  
Methinks on bright pinions from heaven they sail  
To cheer and encourage who never say fail.

"In life's rosy morning, in manhood's firm pride,  
Let this be the motto your footsteps to guide;  
In sickness or sorrow though thousands assail,  
God blessing your labors, you can never say fail."

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## WHY THE CHRISTIAN RELIGION SHOULD BE UNIVERSALLY ACCEPTED.

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EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,

Charleston, West Virginia, June 7, 1900.

REV. LOUIS ALBERT BANKS,  
No. 504 Prospect Street,  
Cleveland, O.

MY DEAR SIR:

Replying to your valued favor of the 5th inst., in which you

ask me to state the causes and circumstances connected with my determination to endeavor to live a Christian life, I desire to say that such decision was brought about more from parental training than anything else. My parents were ardent Christians, and, as a matter of course, they instilled into my mind from early childhood the principles of Christianity which they themselves earnestly supported and believed. When I reached the period in life that I could think for myself, I surveyed the field as carefully as I could, and saw for myself that the Christian religion had done more for the uplifting of mankind than everything else combined. I, of my own desire, therefore, fell into line, and have done what little I could to help the cause along. Christianity, more than all other religions united, has elevated the minds and thoughts of all peoples and caused them to be helpful to one another in making the world generally better and happier and purer and nobler. Christianity has erected more churches, more alms houses, more asylums, more school buildings and colleges than any other force known to humanity. In addition to its recognition of God as the All Father of all mankind, it has built its fabric upon the Golden Rule basis of living, and has all along the centuries devoted its best efforts to aiding the needy, lifting up the fallen, and comforting the distressed. No one can err in life by squaring his actions according to the precepts and teachings of the Holy Bible. This book is so many sided, so universally helpful, and so broad in its philosophical teachings that it must be, necessarily, of Divine conception. I have always believed it to be the Word of God, and always shall regard it as such. Even if it should turn out to be the product of man, we can lose nothing by following its teachings; and if, on the other hand, it should prove Divine, as I believe it to be, we will be on the safe side by conducting our lives according to its requirements. I have never been able to understand why every well meaning citizen should not be a consistent Christian.

Very respectfully yours,

G. W. ATKINSON,  
Governor of West Virginia.

## NEW SIGNIFICANCE OF THE NATION'S NATAL DAY.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,  
Charleston, W. Va., June 7, 1900.

EDITOR "RAM'S HORN,"  
No. 110 La Salle Avenue,  
Chicago, Ill.

MY DEAR SIR—

Replying to your courteous request of the 1st inst. relative to the particular significance of the approaching Fourth of July and its relation to the present problems in our National life, I desire to say briefly that on account of the recent war between the United States and Spain and our present contest to regulate the affairs of the Philippine Islands and bring them safely under Republican rule and administration, the coming Fourth of July will have more than its usual significance as the birthday of our Republic. Our war with Spain was not a war of conquest or for greed or gain. It was the natural result of the growing sentiment throughout the world that all peoples are inherently entitled to the greatest possible liberty, both in church and state. American patriotism, therefore, will, on the coming Fourth of July, reach the highest stage in patriotic sentiment that has been attained since the war of the Rebellion. Patriotic sentiment nowadays among our people seems to be universal. The American people are naturally liberty-loving and patriotic. I, therefore, look for great demonstrations throughout the country this year in celebrating our Nation's natal day. We have adopted new methods in the conduct of our National affairs, the discussion of which will create new enthusiasm and revive a patriotic sentiment which for many years has been more or less dormant.

I look for these new methods in the management of our Government to open new avenues of trade which, of necessity, will bring greater prosperity to the people at large, and greater devotion to the United States as the flagship of the world.

Very respectfully,

G. W. ATKINSON,  
Governor of West Virginia.



## CORNER STONE ORATION.

*Delivered by Governor G. W. Atkinson, P. G. M. and Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of West Virginia, at Charleston, West Virginia, July 4, 1900. At the laying of the Corner-stone of the new Capitol Building.*

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## MY BRETHREN, FRIENDS AND FELLOW CITIZENS:

It seems to me most fitting that the corner-stone of this, to be, splendid new Capitol building, should be laid with elaborate ceremonies on our Nation's "natal day." Here under God's free sunlight; here as our locks are fanned by the air of liberty; here at the Capital of one of the richest and most prosperous of all the States of the Republic; here under the protection of the "stars and strips;" here on the banks of the Great Kanawha in the twilight of the nineteenth century; here amid the hum industry and development on every hand, and beneath the shadows of the majestic hills which have withstood the storms of centuries, in the presence of this magnificent throng of our own West Virginia people, we are assembled to lower to its place in the north-east corner of this proposed imposing edifice, a massive corner-stone, which weighs 12,000 avoirdupois pounds. Only great builders, my friends, can accomplish such an undertaking. Only master mechanics can perform such work. Hail to this great Fraternity of Freemasons to-day! Hail to this massive gathering of freemen! Hail, all hail, to you as patriotic West Virginians! And better than all, I hail you as Americans! Patrick Henry, more than a hundred years ago, builded wiser than he knew, when he said, "I hail the day as not far distant, when it will be regarded as the proudest exclamation of man, I am an American!" Better than Persian, Greek or Roman is the four-syllable word *American*. On this day of days, higher than ever before has the tide of American patriotism risen. More than ever before is the American flag revered. From sea to sea and from lakes to gulf, to-day will our countrymen shout loudest over the privileges they enjoy. To-day we rejoice, not only because we are in the front rank of the great nations of the

world, but better than all, we are, happily united under one flag and one Constitution, and are to remain, we hope, one Nation and one people, indivisible and inseparable, now and forever more. Old sectional divisions have been removed, and the true national purpose before us, as citizens, is to strengthen the bulwarks of our civilization, so that righteousness among all the people may be the immutable basis of our great Republic. Free schools for all and all for free schools should be the motto of each and all, because they develop safe ideals of national greatness, and add largely to the sentiments of loyalty to the "stars and stripes," and the true glory of our indissoluble American Union. The universal sentiment of the American people to-day is one constitution, one flag, one destiny. May it, my hearers, be thus forever.

One cannot, my fellow citizens, but be impressed by this august presence and this splendid demonstration. I count it a high privilege indeed, upon an occasion so fraught with public interest, to be permitted to speak, for a few minutes, to this splendid audience of my own West Virginia people. I congratulate this oldest and greatest of all fraternal organizations, and all of you as well, upon the auspicious circumstances which surround us upon this memorable occasion.

This, my friends, as you all well know, is the 124th anniversary of the birth of the Republic under which we are now living. Some nations have had rapid growth—others slow. Ours, in growth and progress, is the wonder of all the centuries, and its marvelous development is by no means circumstantial. The United States possess, beyond question, the most wonderful productive power of any other government on the earth. As production is wealth, therefore the nation which produces most is necessarily the wealthiest and most stable. Our energy as a producer is equal to Great Britain, France and Germany combined, and yet they are all great nations. One American, by actual statistics, has more energy in productive force than two Germans or four Frenchmen, however advanced they may be in education, culture, refinement and civilization; and however much they may have had the start of us in the race that will ever be on between the nations of the world. Free labor, free thought and free speech, beyond all other factors, are the foundation stones—the corner-stones—of our wonderful prosperity as a Nation. Seemingly everything prospers under a free

sky. Men, somehow, grow bigger, stronger, greater, braver when the air they breathe is charged with the pure ozone of freedom. Every American is a freeman, and every avenue is open alike to one and all. Class or creed or sect or race or caste has no grip upon any of us. We are what we ourselves make us—nothing less—nothing more. The men who wear rings in their noses may be men, but one thing is sure and incontrovertible: they are not Americans. We walk erect in the dignity of unrestricted, untrammelled Anglo-Saxon manhood. Thank God! over the relics of human slavery in all lands to-day, (and the Fourth of July, more than any other one cause, brought it about), freemen are erecting stately edifices, and the legions of almost forgotten monarchs are sleeping beneath the tread of freedom's hosts, and upon every sepulcher of history are strewn the ashes from the camp-fires of the army of progress.

To the inventive genius of our people may be attributed a large measure of our growth and progress. Germany may be, and doubtless is, the seat of universities and learning; France, the school of soldiers, and England the mother of the mechanic arts; but the United States masters the world in inventive genius. No Chaldean astronomer ever measured a year or foretold an eclipse. The alphabet was invented in the East, but no line of language of profane history has been transmitted to us written in that alphabet. The Egyptians piled up massive monuments along the Nile, but the citizens of the republics of Greece and Rome alone were the architects of edifices and temples which have been used as models through the centuries. The history of all literatures from the Alexandrian age to the present time, teaches the fact that genius withered with the decline of liberty, and grew with the growth of freedom. It is, my countrymen, because genius developed by the freedom of thought, that the world to-day owes to America its greatest blessings of discovery. It was Franklin who bottled the lightning, and with Edison's genius, coupled with Franklin's discovery, the world is now ruled in a large degree by electricity. Rumsey discovered the power of steam, and Fulton's genius gave to it the mastery of power and time and space. Whitney invented the cotton-gin. Howe gave to the housewife and the manufacturer of clothing the sewing machine. Bell and Dolbear thought out the telephone, while Morse annihilated dis-



tance by telegraphy. Nearly all labor-saving inventions now in use in all lands are the products of American genius. We are, therefore, a nation of inventors without a rival on the globe.

I have said, my countrymen, that the progress the United States has made is not the mere outgrowth of circumstances, and I meant it. The physical and mechanical powers which have ever been behind our people are the causes that have enabled them, crude and unlettered as they were at the outset, to jump to the fore-front, and to maintain the position, against all comers, which they fairly and rightfully won. Consequently, I say, that it was not the mere outgrowth of circumstances alone which occasioned these conditions or brought them about. Grit and genius did the work. The strong and active brains of men and women, aided by machinery of their own invention, which they have applied to the useful arts and sciences of every day life, cannot be overcome—cannot be suppressed. Intellectual paper bullets of the brain are more powerful and dangerous to encounter than seventy-six pound cannon balls belched from the muzzles of modern Krupp guns. Brains are more powerful than musketry and swords. Bullets and swords may be evaded, but brain force is as resistless as the tides of the seas. Grit and genius, therefore, cannot be suppressed, nor can all other combined powers or attainments, known to men or angels, stifle or overcome them.

My fellow citizens, marvelous and mighty have been the development and progress our government has made during the century which is now grandly rolling out. We received the ox cart from the eighteenth, and we bequeath to the twentieth century the locomotive, the trolly car, the automobile and the bicycle.

We received the goose quill, and bequeath the fountain pen and the typewriter.

We received the sickle and the scythe, and bequeath the reaper, the mower and the harvester.

We received the shovel plow, and bequeath the cultivator.

We received the tallow-dip, and bequeath the arc-light.

We received the horse-back and the stage-coach mails, and bequeath the "lightning express" trains, the telegraph and the telephone.

We received the hand-press, and bequeath the Hoe cylinder and linotype machines.

We received the flint-lock gun, and bequeath the automatic breech-loading rifle.

We received the smooth-bore cannons, and bequeath the Krupp and Gatling guns.

We received gun-powder, and bequeath nitroglycerine.

We received the sailing ship, and bequeath the double-screw propeller.

We received the common stairway, and bequeath the lightning-speed elevator.

We received two-story houses, and bequeath twenty-story edifices.

We received raw-leather men, and bequeath university graduates.

We received log school-houses, and we bequeath white, frame buildings along every vale and hillside, with their doors thrown open for the education of all classes, without money and without price.

The nineteenth century, at its beginning, had knowledge of only one million stars, and we bequeath to the twentieth century one hundred millions of these mysterious, unfading worlds scattered over the broad expanse of space.

We received but twenty-two million English speaking peoples from the eighteenth century, and we bequeath one hundred and twenty millions to the twentieth century.

In West Virginia we received a wilderness, the savage, the elk and the buffalo, and we bequeath to the twentieth century the richest 25,000 square miles of territory that has thus far been developed on terra firma, which is now pouring fabulous treasures into the lap of commerce.

And notwithstanding all this development, we are now standing at the threshold of still greater discoveries, and are at the entrance of an era of dazzling splendor which cannot fail to electrify the human race. All these, and more, we cheerfully hand over to the new century which is just dawning above the eastern horizon. Mighty things have been wrought out during the century now drawing to a close, and still, what our eyes now behold are but the earnest of things more glorious that are yet to follow. Well may we exclaim with him of old: "What hath God not wrought!"

My friends, the custom of laying corner-stones of public edifices with imposing ceremonies like these is of old-time origin. Such exercises ante date written history, and therefore are known to us only by tradition. The custom is generally regarded as of Hebrew origin, but we have reason to believe that it ante dates that world famed, intelligent progressive race. The Sacred Scriptures lay much stress upon *the corner-stone*. These sacred writings emphasize the relation of the corner-stone to the building or structure. For example, I quote the following passages: "Behold I lay in Zion for a foundation stone, a tried stone, a precious corner-stone, a sure foundation." Again, "Where was thou when I laid the foundation of the earth?" And again, " \* \* \* \* Whereupon are the foundations thereof fastened? Or who laid the corner-stone thereof; when the morning stars sang together and all the sons of God shouted for joy?" Adown the centuries the term "corner-stone" has been used as a symbol, and was employed by poets, prophets, teachers and writers—sacred and profane—as a metaphor or simile, or to emphasize an argument or enforce a moral and a truth. But they go still further in significance and meaning. Back of this ceremony, my friends and brothers, in formally laying this corner-stone to-day, lie the deeper aim and the grander purpose of what this proposed structure, and other public buildings represent. All public edifices are constructed to satisfy the needs of a people. This building is demanded by the government of West Virginia as a place of safety for its public records. Others are needed for educational purposes, and still others for the worship of an unseen but not unknown God, which symbolizes the greater lesson of this time-honored Order of Freemasons, that all of its members should erect within themselves spiritual temples that the tooth of time cannot destroy. Therefore each individual citizen represents, in a sense, the corner-stone of a spiritual edifice wherein every one is to exemplify that character of a being whose purpose is to work out the unity of all men, broader than denominations or sects, and as unending as eternity.

There are those, my fellow citizens, who adhere to the philosophy that there is no God—no immortality, and that Nature alone is God. They are atheists, whose doctrine is condemned by Revelation, reason and religion. There are others who stand aloof, exclaiming, "We accept nothing that we cannot



see or feel." They are the agnostics. There is still another class who believe in gods many, or that everything is God. They are pantheists. There are others still who say that there may be a God, but they cannot be sure about it, yet they worship him as the Unknowable and Unknown; and there is also a fourth class who boldly assert that there is a Divine Creator of all persons and all things, wherefore they adore and worship Him as the great *I Am*—the one true God. To this latter class of philosophers these Freemasons belong. But no church creed controls them. No sect owns them, and no formal religion binds them. They are united together by the "Golden Rule," and are taught to administer to the wants of the needy, and to do what they can to make men happier and the world sweeter and purer and better and grander. This great society teaches its votaries to be just and useful. We confess, however, in this presence to-day, that many of us fall short in meeting its requirements; yet no one can be injured by holding membership in it. The world has turned loose many of its greatest thinkers against us,—men with minds and powers broad enough to startle society for a time, but all of these critics have utterly failed in their efforts to shake the walls of the Order, or weaken the foundation upon which it stands. Its corner-stone, like the massive one we have laid to-day, is too firm to be shaken and too heavy to be torn away. Like the truths of the Bible, which is the recognized "great light in Masonry," it is too powerful and too firmly established to be overthrown. Freemasonry would have its members always remain upright and just and clean—

"As delicate as a cob-web  
As lasting as the hills."

But are they always such? Can they be such? To reach that standard they would approach the divine. To be such indeed would be the ideal, which can never be attained. But withal, my brothers, my friends, the world is growing better. The principles of liberty are widening. The spirit of charity is increasing. Men are steadily rising to higher heights of usefulness and intelligence. The brotherhood of man is increasing its hold, and is broadening its influence among the nations of the earth. And in this marvelous reformatory work, Freemasonry has performed its full duty and has acted a noble part. It is here to stay, my friends, because God has willed it so.

This great order has weathered safely the storms of the centuries because it is based upon true benevolent principles. It encourages friendship and detests selfishness and hate. Experience teaches us that selfishness causes that "inhumanity of man to man, that makes the countless millions mourn." The one great need of the world to-day is to induce the people everywhere to understand that they are all children of the one Great Father, and that they have a common aim and destiny. These fraternal organizations are doing their full share to banish selfishness and hate from the hearts of the people wherever they have been established. If I could will it to be done, I would have the whole world one mammoth Fraternal Order, and I would have God himself the Supreme Grand Master of them all. I believe that day is coming,—speed the time when it shall be ushered in. "He that would be great among you, let him be the servant of all."

Like a silver rivulet winding down the mountain side, leaping from rock to rock and dancing in the sunlight, has Freemasonry swept across the ages, singing its undying song of charity and peace, gladdening all hearts, and scattering flowers at the feet of the heartsore and the downcast of the earth. It will not be long until all of us will bunch our working tools and surrender our trusts. "When the silver cord is loosened and the golden bowl is broken," if we have walked upon the level and acted by the square, the Freemason will be rewarded for all the work he has done, for he will have sustained in life and transmitted in death, unsullied and undimmed, a fabric of benevolence and virtue, the noblest and the best that has ever been erected for the betterment of the human race.

We shall soon return from here, my fellow citizens, to our various avocations. The storms as they come and go will beat upon the walls which will rise above this corner-stone. Let us hope, my brothers, that the lightning's shafts will spare this edifice, and may God's best blessings be showered upon our State. May faith and peace and good will to men shed their benign influence upon the officers who shall occupy its portals and sit beneath its dome; and may the shadow of the centuries gently hover over the work we have done to-day.

"Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord; and the people whom he hath chosen for his own inheritance."

## REPUBLICAN STATE CONVENTION.

*Interview of Governor Atkinson in the Charleston Mail Tribune,  
July 13, 1900.*

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The Governor, who witnessed all the proceedings of the Convention, was asked what he thought of the ticket. He replied: "It is a good one, and could not be bettered. The Republican party in West Virginia never was more enthusiastic than it is to-day. It enters the contest with an assurance of victory in advance. It is gratifying to me to have so good a ticket, from McKinley down.

"I am all right. I stand for McKinley and Roosevelt, majority and ratification, and am opposed to Bryan and Stevenson, buncoing and soup houses. I shall vote with pleasure for White, wages and work, and against Holt, humbugs and hunger. I believe in protection and prosperity, and am opposed to reaction and retribution. I stand with the Republican party for expansion and enterprise, and am opposed to contraction and cussedness. The Republican party gets up and gets. The Democratic party growls and grumbles. The Republican party stands for country and courage. The Democratic party stands for crankiness and cowardice. The Republican party stands for the nation's credit. The Democratic party stands for the Nation's crucifixion. The Republican party stands for progress. The Democratic party stands for the past. The Republican party plows with a cultivator. The Democratic party plows, like the Chinese, with a wooden plow. The Republican party has adopted the arc light. The Democratic party sticks to the tallow dip. The Republican party shoots breech-loaders and Krupp guns. The Democratic party shoots flint-locks and smooth-bores. The Republican party is a twenty-story edifice. The Democratic party stays on the ground floor. The Republican party uses an elevator. The Democratic party climbs the old-fashioned stairways. The Republican party, always aggressive, moves forward; while the Democratic party is lobster-headed—looks forward and crawls backward. The Republican party believes in



one hundred-cent dollars; the Democratic party believes in fifty-cent dollars to pay one-hundred-cent debts. The Republican party is bounded on the North by all of its promises fulfilled; on the South by prosperity and progress; on the East by McKinley protection, and on the West by Roosevelt and the Rough Riders.

"The Democratic party is bounded on the North by broken pledges; on the South by negro disfranchisement; on the East by Coker, the Tammany Tiger and the Ice Trust, and on the West by Bryanism, Populism, the Fillipinos, cowboys, sage-brush, anarchy, desolation and despair. And still the Democrats claim that they are going to elect Bryan and Aguinaldo. They will never do it while White's head is red and we continue to dig 20,000,000 tons of coal a year out of the bowels of West Virginia. We will bury the whole Democratic hulk this year like the old Scotch Presbyterian woman said she had buried his Satanic majesty—with his face downwards, so that the more he scratched the deeper down he would go.

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## EXECUTIVE ORDER.

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STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA,  
EXECUTIVE CHAMBER,  
CHARLESTON, W. VA.

WHEREAS, On the 21st day of May, A. D., 1895, one James Dudley was tried, and convicted on an indictment for murder, by the Circuit Court of Mingo county, and was sentenced to the penitentiary for the term of eighteen years by said Court; and

WHEREAS, On the 8th day of April, A. D., 1899, I, as Governor of the State, released the said Dudley from further confinement in the penitentiary upon parole, under the provisions set out in section 20 of Chapter XIV of the Code, which conditional parole was accepted by the said Dudley before he was released from prison. The provisions of said parole are in the language following, to-wit: "I release him (Dudley) on parole, and with the distinct proviso that if he, the said Dudley, shall at any time hereafter violate any of the penal laws of West Virginia,

he shall be returned to the penitentiary, and shall be required to serve the remainder of the sentence imposed by the Court in this case." And

WHEREAS, It has been clearly proven that the said Dudley did on the 12th day of July, A. D., 1899, feloniously attempt to murder one Capt. A. P. Parlor and therefore violated his said parole. Therefore, I, George W. Atkinson, Governor of the State of West Virginia, do hereby order, by virtue of the authority conferred upon me by Section 20 of Chapter XIV of the Code of this State, that the said James Dudley shall be returned to the penitentiary, and shall be required to serve the remainder of the sentence imposed upon him by the Circuit Court of the County of Mingo, entered on the 21st day of May, 1895, in the Circuit Court Clerk's office of said county.

It is further ordered that N. J. Keadle, Esq., Sheriff of Mingo county, shall forthwith return the said James Dudley to the State's prison at Moundsville under the conditions hereinbefore expressed: and the Warden of the said prison is hereby directed to receive the said Dudley and confine him according to the rules of the prison for the remainder of the sentence of the Court as originally entered.

Given under my hand and the Seal of the State of West Virginia, this 19th day of July, A. D., 1899, and in the 37th year of the State.

G. W. ATKINSON,  
Governor.

By the Governor,  
WM. M O. DAWSON,  
Secretary of State.

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## LABOR DAY PROCLAMATION.

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STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA,  
EXECUTIVE CHAMBER.

The State of West Virginia, by its Legislature, having passed a law setting apart the first Monday of September of each year as

## LABOR DAY,

and at which time all toilers should step aside from their regular employment and give such day to rest, improvement, and enjoyment.

Now, therefore, I, George W. Atkinson, Governor of the State of West Virginia, do hereby recommend and request that on

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 1900,

all places where labor is employed within the State of West Virginia, shall, as far as possible so to do, be shut down, so that all toilers may be permitted to enjoy this day as one of rest from all cares and duties. In this manner, better than any other, the dignity and worth of labor can be brought to the attention of the public, and its value to the country at large may be more fully understood and appreciated.

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"In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread, till thou return unto the ground; for out of it wast thou taken: for dust thou art, and unto dust shalt thou return." *Genesis*, 3: 19.

"Six days shalt thou labor and do all thy work." *Exodus*, 20: 9.

"For thou shalt eat the labor of thine hands: happy shalt thou be, and it shall be well with thee." *Psalms*, 128: 2.

"In all labor there is profit: but the talk of the lips tendeth only to penury." *Proverbs*, 14: 23.

"The labor of the righteous tendeth to life: the fruit of the wicked to sin." *Proverbs*, 10: 16.

"Man goeth forth unto his work, and to his labor until the evening." *Psalms*, 104: 23.

"He that gathereth in summer is a wise son; but he that sleepeth in harvest is a son that causeth shame." *Proverbs*, 10: 5.

"He that tilleth his land shall have plenty of bread: but he that followeth after vain persons shall have poverty enough." *Proverbs*, 28: 19.

"Wealth gotten by vanity shall be diminished; but he that gathereth by labor shall increase." *Proverbs*, 13: 11.

"There is nothing better for a man than that he should eat



and drink, and that he should make his soul enjoy good in his labor. This also I saw, that it was from the hand of God." *Ecclesiastes*, 2: 24.

"Two are better than one, because they have a good reward for their labor." *Ecclesiastes*, 4: 9.

"The sleep of a laboring man is sweet, whether he eat little or much: but the abundance of the rich will not suffer him to sleep." *Ecclesiastes*, 5: 12.

"So built we the wall: and all the wall was joined together unto the half thereof: for the people had a mind to work." *Nehemiah*, 4: 6.

"Let him that stole steal no more: but rather let him labor, working with his hands the thing which is good, that he may have to give to him that needeth." *Ephesians*, 4: 28.

"And labor, working with our own hands: being reviled, we bless; being persecuted, we suffer it." *I. Corinthians*, 4: 12.

"Now he that planteth and he that watereth are one: and every man shall receive his own reward according to his own labor." *I. Corinthians*, 3: 8.

"The husbandman that laboreth must be first partaker of the fruits." *II. Timothy*, 2: 6.

"But what think ye? A certain man had two sons; and he came to the first, and said, son, go to work to-day in my vineyard." *Matthew*, 22: 28.

"And that ye study to be quiet, and to do your own business, and to work with your own hands as we commanded you." *I. Thessalonians*, 4: 11.

"For even when we were with you, this we commanded you, that if any would not work, neither should he eat." *II. Thessalonians*, 2: 10.

"For the workman is worthy of his meat." *Matthew*, 10: 10.

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In witness whereof, I have set my hand and caused the great seal of the State to be affixed, at the capital in the city of Charleston, this 26th day of July, in the year of our Lord, 1900, and of the State the 38th.

[SEAL.]

G. W. ATKINSON.

By the Governor,

WM. M. O. DAWSON,

Secretary of State.

## CORNER-STONE ADDRESS.

*An Address by Governor Geo. W. Atkinson, at the Laying of  
the Corner-Stone of the New Administration Building of  
the Boys Reform School, at Prunytown, West  
Va., August 15, 1900.*

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MEMBERS OF THE MASONIC FRATERNITY, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN:

This is a gala day for the historic borough of Prunytown. We are assembled here to-day as citizens and Freemasons, and better than all as Americans. We rejoice over present conditions and future prospects. We rejoice over the progress of our great country, and we specially rejoice over the growth and prosperity of our own State. No other State in the Union is keeping pace with our own beloved "Mountain State." It is but a question of a very few years for West Virginia to be ranked among the leading Commonwealth's of the Republic. Nature did much for us, and we ourselves are now doing the rest. We are in the van of progress, and we are in the procession to stay. Our waste-places are rapidly building up, and our people are accordingly glad. In everything that pertains to civilization, growth and progress, we, as West Virginians, have forged to the fore-front; and while we are now in the midst of an age of dazzling splendor, I regard it as but the pressage of a more marvelous development which is yet to follow. Well may we, my friends, rejoice and be glad.

We have assembled to-day with the Grand Lodge of Freemasons of West Virginia, to lay the corner-stone of what is soon to be one of the splendid public buildings of the growing State of West Virginia. A building which, when completed, will be an honor and an ornament to any State of the Union; a building splendid in its apportionments, beautiful in architecture and design, costly in construction, and better than all, intended exclusively for educational and reformatory purposes; a building wherein it is intended to instruct a portion of our West Virginia youth in the art of doing something, and doing it correctly; to fit them for taking honorable part in the development

of themselves as well as their State; to make them useful men, intelligent men, honorable men; to fit them for practical occupations and to give them confidence in, and respect for, themselves. All of these boy inmates of this institution are bright fellows. Indeed, they are exceptionally shrewd. They inherently possess the materials which make real manhood. They, therefore, can be moulded into great and good men, if they are properly handled and carefully guided. It was the purpose of the State in establishing this public institution, to so conduct it as to make intelligent, useful men out of these apparently hopeless, hapless, reckless, thoughtless boys; and my candid judgment is that we are going to accomplish this laudable undertaking. No one, my hearers, can foresee the possibilities of these formerly unfortunate youth. Every one of them has a man in him. The aim of the State, in planting this reformatory institution, was to evolve the upright man out of the reckless boy. A shapeless block of marble contains a man, if it is placed in the sculptors studio. With chisel and mallet he cannot fail to work out the result. These boys are all embryo men, and it is left for the State, through its officers and teachers here, to develop the real characters which God has implanted within the bosoms of these youth who stand uncovered in our presence to-day. Some of the worked out statues will no doubt be failures, but my expectation is that the most of them will turn out to be well rounded, intelligent, useful men of the State. It depends, however, largely upon the boys themselves as to what the result will be. If they will heed the advice of their superintendent and their teachers, every one of them will prove a success and not a failure. Every one of them can be a man, and not a cipher. All of them, I trust, will be digits,—standing for something, even if they stand alone. I have seen enough of the youth here at this institution, and the manner of their training, to induce me to take stock in them, and I, therefore, desire every one of them to understand that I am his friend, and stand ready, at any and all times, to lend him a helping hand.

The twentieth century, my fellow citizens, calls for many sided men. They are wanted in all the learned professions. They are wanted as lawyers, ministers, physicians, teachers, scientists, mechanics and farmers. They are wanted everywhere as thinkers, philosophers, leaders and workers. They are wanted, indeed, in every avocation of human life. The way is



open for one and all, and I would have you not forget that the best brain and the best energy will win in all of these callings. If we can induce these boys to understand that the way is open, now and at all times, to the best brain, brawn and muscle, and that they themselves will have an equal chance with all comers, rich or poor, we will have accomplished our purpose in the erection of this splendid new building at the public expense.

The State itself bids for the highest accomplishments in all callings. Fortunately for all classes of our people, it has been thoroughly tested and found to be true, that family, blood or previous condition cuts no figure in the race for supremacy among men. The old argument that blood must be taken into consideration in the educational process of making real men, has been forever relegated to the rear. It is better to have a horse without a pedigree, than to have a pedigree without a horse. Brains, not blood, win in the race that is now and will be forever on in the driving, go-ahead age in which we are now living. We want these boys to feel and know that the race for success in life lies in grit and get-up-and-get, and not in blood or color or prestige or family or name. Fortunately it is now understood and known to be a contest between education, energy and somebody, on the one hand, and not family, nonsense and nothing on the other. The boy who has something in him will win, and the one who has nothing in him, and who has no ideal, will fail, and he ought to. Thank God, the way is open to all alike, and the swiftest runners will be crowned the victors in the contest. This, my friends, is God's law, and it cannot be set aside. We are beginning now to understand that it has, notwithstanding our prejudices and our predilections, always prevailed, and it always will prevail, however much we may endeavor to overrule it.

It has been my principal purpose, my fellow citizens, for many years past, to inspire the young people of our State, as best I could, to reach out for high ideals in life. The young man or the young woman who possesses laudable ambitions, and is inspired by the beauty and power of enthusiasm, rarely, if ever, fails in making a record worthy of the aspirations of good people everywhere. To what end or purpose is society, popular education, churches, and all the machinery of culture, if no living truth is elicited which fertilizes as well as enlightens those involved in all of these varied processes of development and growth? Shake-

speare undoubtedly owed his marvelous insight into the human soul, to his profound sympathy with mankind. He might have conned whole libraries on the philosophy of human passion; he might have coldly observed facts for years, and never have conceived of jealousy like Othello's, the remorse of Macbeth, or love like that of Juliet. When the native sentiments are once interested, new facts spring to light. It was under this excitement of wonder and love, that Lord Byron, tossed on the lake of Geneva, thought "Jura answered from her misty shroud," responsive to the thunder of the Alps. If one will inject heart and soul into what he does, foster enthusiasm, and bravely obey his sympathetic tendencies for his fellows, he will find in his candid and devoted relations with others, freedom from the constraints of prejudice and form, and thus summon into the horizon of destiny those hues of beauty, love and truth, which are at all times the most glorious reflections of the soul.

History and romance, my young friends, offer nothing more fascinating to the young people of a free country, than the pathway to success in life under difficulties and besetments which, under the divine plan, must confront every individual. Every great achievement in the world's history, like liberty itself, had to win its triumph through opposition, and through an opposition which, at the time, seemed almost insurmountable. It is hard work, indomitable energy, and "eternal hang-onativeness," as General Grant expressed it, which found the world chaos and transformed it into Parian marble, and which transferred civilization from the cradle of ignorance to the throne of power. Genius, born in destitution and adversity amid garrets and hovels, breaks through all environments, and reaches fortune and fame, as unerringly as the stars roll through invisible space. These, as a rule, are its birthplaces, and amid such surroundings, it struggles and emerges at last, sun-crowned and brawned, and takes its place in the front ranks of all assemblies. Washington, some of you know, was threatened because he would not surrender to the demands of an excited populace; but he did not surrender. The Duke of Wellington was mobbed while his wife lay dead in his home, because he refused to surrender his manhood to the excited mob. The discoverer of oxygen was assaulted and his house was burned by an excited mob, because he propagated new ideas in science. Bruno proclaimed new theories in astronomy, and was burned

in his studio at Rome, because he would not abandon his convictions as to the needs and interests of his fellow men. Versalius was publicly condemned for dissecting the human body in the interest of science for the whole human race. Roger Bacon, one of the world's greatest thinkers, was persecuted and punished by being kept in prison for ten years, because he advocated new thoughts and new ideas of man's duty to man. Barnum, a poor, bare-foot boy, through troubles innumerable, and by perseverance and grit, won his way to fortune and renown. Fire and blood cannot keep such men from success. Clergymen and statesmen, by tens of thousands, worked their ways from tradesmen's benches to the highest rounds on the ladder of fame. Columbus was written down a fool, because he claimed that the world was round, and that a great, undiscovered country laid west of Spain. A new world was written upon his brain, and he never ceased struggling until he found it. Our own American Congress honored itself by admitting skilled mechanics and artisans to seats within its halls. Roger Sherman, Henry Wilson, Gideon Lee, William Graham, John Halley, H. P. Baldwin, Daniel Sheffey, were all shoemakers. Lincoln was a surveyor. Johnson was a tailor. Garfield was a canal boatman, and Grant was a tanner; and yet all of these four statesmen ably filled the Presidential office. The founders of our greatest educational institutions were poor boys. Horace Greely, who came from the farm, without money and with but a limited education, founded the New York Tribune by writing editorials on a barrel head. Gifford worked out his greatest problems with a shoemaker's awl, a hammer and a last. John Brighton, the author of "The Beauties of England and Wales," did the most of his work in bed, because he was too poor to afford the expense of a fire. Disraeli a member of a persecuted race, without education and opportunities, became the prime minister of England. Scofield and Erskine, ridiculed and rebuffed in the English House of Commons at their first appearance as members, refused to be downed because of their humble and obscure origin, and by persistency and pluck left behind them names as imperishable as brass. Thomas Carlyle and Hugh Miller were stone masons. Cardinal Wolsey and William Shakespeare and Henry Kirk White were butchers. Jeremy Taylor was a barber. Farady was the son of a blacksmith. Kepler was an elevator boy at a hotel. Sir Humphrey Davy was a druggist. John



Bunyan was a tinker. Richard Cobden started his career in a London warehouse, and although his first speech in parliament was a failure, he subsequently became one of the greatest orators of England. Marshal Ney rose from the rank of a private soldier. Admirals Faragut and Dewey were boatswains. McKinley and Bryan were country lawyers. Lyman Beecher was a fiddler, and James Paxson was a jig dancer. Even the Christ himself was a carpenter by trade. My friends, what further evidence would you ask to sustain the statement that to succeed one must have courage and the ability to paddle his own canoe, and more than these he does not need. A determined man cannot be kept from succeeding. Such an one uses stumbling blocks as stepping stones by which he climbs upward to victory. Cripple him, and he hobbles on; incarcerate him in prison, and he will, like Bunyan, write books for posterity. Back of all disappointments and mishaps, lies real manhood, and this element alone will push one to the front.

Let us, my fellow citizens, teach the young people of our State that labor is the great schoolmaster of us all, and that industry and perseverance are the prices that all must pay for distinction in the callings in which we engage. If we can induce our young people to understand that it requires courage to persist in an undertaking, which many may term visionary; that it requires courage, at times, to wear poor clothes, and that it takes courage, real courage, to say no, when the majority will say yes, then we will have accomplished our purpose in putting them on the road which leads to real manhood and real success.

"Some sow the seed, then sit and wait  
For suns to shine and rains to fall,  
And mourn the harvest comes so late,  
And fear it will not come at all.

"Some, single-minded, still work on,  
Nor ever stop to understand;  
The rose-bloom of success is won,  
And harvests ripen at their hand."

My fellow citizens, we as West Virginians should be, and doubtless are, justly proud of our educational institutions which are fostered by the State. We have the public schools, which are open to all comers, and are as near perfection as can be found in any other sister State. We have normal schools, distributed in available localities, that are furnishing intern-

diating training, and are fitting hundreds annually for the highest courses of study. We have a University, largely attended by young men and young women, who are equipping and training themselves for the highest educational walks of life. We have this Reform School for boys, wherein the wayward and the recalcitrant youth are taught obedience, respect for law, for home and good society. We have a Girl's Industrial School or Home, where not only good morals, but industrial pursuits, and general instruction are imparted. We have churches wherein the Gospel of the Christ is preached, and the young and the old alike are taught to be upright and religious. We have all the appliances here in West Virginia to enlighten the ignorant, and to make the world happier and nobler and better.

After all, my friends, there is nothing so valuable to mankind as education and culture; and there is nothing higher or nobler in life than that of teaching and educating those about us. Education is a companion which no misfortune can depress, no power can destroy, no enemy can alienate, no despotism can enslave. A greater orator than Erskine, in a great cause, said that "education is at home a friend, abroad an introduction, in solitude a solace, in society an ornament." It is education which lights the world by enlightening man. Prejudice and superstition vanish before it. It is above the arrogance of power. It crushes vice. It gives grace and government to genius, and order to the State. It is at once mighty and majestic. We should, therefore, my friends, count ourselves happy that we are permitted to participate in its benefits, and aid in every way we can in its universal dissemination among the people.

From early manhood, my fellow citizens, I have devoted my best efforts to encourage educational work from the common school upward. While I may have done but little along these lines, I have nevertheless done my best, and I have reason to believe that my efforts have not been entirely fruitless. This school, I am sure, has done a great work in regulating and reforming many of our reckless West Virginia boys, and yet it is but in its infancy. The field is broad, and this massive, new building is abundant evidence that the State itself means to stand behind the institution, and make it a blessing to our people and an honor to West Virginia. In its management thus far

we have nothing to regret, and in its future we have much to hope for. If the boys who are educated here, will go out from these walls with subdued wills, self poised, and with noble aspirations, they cannot fail to be useful and intelligent citizens, thus honoring themselves and their State, and reflecting credit upon an institution which gave them their first uplift, and placed them in the highway which leads to useful and exalted manhood.

In conclusion, my countrymen, permit me to extend public thanks to this great Order of Freemasons that has so kindly and beautifully placed this corner-stone for us to-day. It is not only a time honored fraternity, but it is a benevolent one as well. It has strewn fresh flowers along the pathways of many who were weary and heart-sore. It has dispelled the dark clouds which hovered above many a sorrowing home. It has lifted up the fallen. It has comforted the sick, buried the dead, and provided for the widows and the orphans. It has given bread to the hungry, water to the thirsty, and has in many ways raised mankind to higher ideals of life and duty. It is the foremost and the greatest of all secret fraternal organizations: and all of us, I am sure, feel honored by the presence of many of its members here to-day. May the benedictions of heaven rest upon them and all of us, and upon this institution and the proud and prosperous State of West Virginia now and forever more.

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#### REMOVAL OF NOTARY PUBLIC.

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WHEREAS, complaint has been made to me, George W. Atkinson, Governor of the State of West Virginia, that William S. Brown, a Notary Public, in and for the County of Kanawha, and State of West Virginia, has, as such Notary Public, been guilty of malfeasance in office and official misconduct in the following matters and things, that is to say:

First Charge.—That heretofore, to wit: On the 31st day of July, 1900, and on divers other days before and since then, the said William S. Brown, as such Notary Public in the said Coun-



ty of Kanawha, did knowingly administer certain unlawful oaths to sundry persons being then and there qualified voters in said County, and which oaths were then and there taken and certified in the form of affidavits by the said Brown as such Notary Public in and according to the following form:—

State of West Virginia,  
County of Kanawha, SS.

I, ....., do solemnly swear that I will not support or vote for the so-called Kanawha County Republican ticket as nominated at the primary election held in said County on the 19th day of May, 1900, being convinced that said ticket was nominated by fraud, and is not the choice of a majority of the Republican voters of said County; and I do further solemnly swear that I will use my best efforts to persuade and induce others to not vote for the said ticket. And I do further swear that I will never reveal to any person whatsoever, any of the plans, movements, methods, or efforts, of any person or persons connected with any movement or organization looking to the defeat or opposition to said so-called Republican ticket; and I do further solemnly swear that I will not reveal to any person the name of any persons connected with, or taking any part in said movement or organization, so help me God.

Taken, sworn to and subscribed before me, this ..... day of ....., 1900.

Post Office.

Precinct.

District.

That the Kanawha County Republican ticket, mentioned above, was, and is a certain ticket embracing certain candidates for the House of Delegates from said Kanawha County, and certain candidates for County and District offices in said County, all of which offices are required to be filled by the laws of West Virginia at the general election to be held as provided by law on the 6th day of November, 1900; and said candidates were chosen at a Primary election held in said County by the Republican party, on the 19th day of May, 1900, and will be candidates for the several offices to which they were nominated as aforesaid on the said ticket at said general election to be held on the 6th day of November, 1900. That the purpose and object of the said Brown, as such Notary Public in administer

ing said oaths and taking said affidavits, was with the unlawful intent and purpose on his part of unduly influencing and controlling the said voters who took said oaths and made said affidavits in their selection of candidates for said offices at said general election, and to keep said voters from voting at said general election for candidates for said offices, as they might wish to do and would do, if they had not taken said oaths, and to make said voters believe that said illegal oaths and affidavits were a moral obligation to keep and perform, contrary to the public policy of the State of West Virginia, and to the rights and duties of said voters as citizens thereof, exercising the right of suffrage.

Second Charge,—That the said oaths and affidavits taken by the said Brown, as such Notary Public, as set out in the first charge above, were obtained through his solicitation of the parties making such oaths, that they should take such illegal oaths, and said parties were solicited and persuaded by the said Brown, as such Notary Public to take such oaths, and did take the same as the result of such solicitation upon the part of said Brown.

Third Charge,—That the said Brown, being such Notary Public, heretofore, to-wit: On the 1st day of July, 1900, entered into an agreement with certain unknown person or persons, by which he the said Brown, did then and there unlawfully and illegally agree that as such Notary Public he would endeavor to obtain from divers and sundry voters of Kanawha county the oaths and affidavits set out in the first charge above; and the said oaths and affidavits were obtained by the said Brown, as such Notary Public, in pursuance of said illegal and unlawful agreement.

Fourth Charge,—That the said Brown, as such Notary Public, with the unlawful intent of soliciting divers and sundry voters in said county, to take and make the said unlawful oaths and affidavits set out in the first charge above, did heretofore, to-wit: on the first day of July, 1900, procure and obtain and have in his possession a large number of printed slips containing the form of said illegal oaths and affidavits, and did use said printed slips in taking said oaths and affidavits from the voters in said county, and that the purpose of said Brown in having said printed slips was, amongst other things, that he might the more readily obtain as large a number as possible

of said illegal oaths and affidavits from the voters of said county.

Fifth Charge,—That the said Brown, as such Notary Public, in administering the oaths and taking the affidavits as above set forth, did pay and offer and promise to pay money and other things of value to the voters who took said oaths, and made said affidavits for the purpose of obtaining said oaths and affidavits, and said voters or some of them did, because of the payment of such money and other things of value, and because of the said offer and promises to pay such money and other things of value, take said oaths and make said affidavits.

And deeming it proper that the charges aforesaid of malfeasance in office and official misconduct against the said Brown as such Notary Public should be investigated and heard in order to determine the truth or falsity thereof, and if true whether the said Brown should on account thereof be removed by me from his said office as Notary Public.

It is, therefore, ordered that a hearing and investigation of the charges aforesaid be had and commenced before me in my office in the Capitol building in the city of Charleston, Kanawha county, West Virginia, on the 15th day of September, 1900, at two o'clock P. M., and that a copy of this order, attested by E. L. Boggs, private secretary, be served upon the said Wm. S. Brown at least five days before the said 15th day of September, 1900, in order that he may have the opportunity to appear before me on said day and be heard in his defense against said charges.

Given under my hand at the Executive Chamber, in the city of Charleston, this 21st day of August, A. D. 1900, and of the State the thirty-eighth.

G. W. ATKINSON,  
Governor.

A true copy—Teste:  
E. L. BOGGS,  
Private Secretary.

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#### EXECUTIVE ORDER.

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It having become known to me that William S. Brown, a Notary Public, in and for the County of Kanawha, and State of



West Virginia, has administered unlawful oaths to certain citizens of said county, which oaths pretend to obligate the person taking the same that such person will not vote for certain candidates for public offices to be voted for at the forthcoming general election, which oath is in the following form:

“State of West Virginia, County of Kanawha, ss:

“I, ....., do solemnly swear that I will not support or vote for the so-called Kanawha County Republican ticket as nominated at the primary election held in said county on the 19th day of May, 1900, being convinced that said ticket was nominated by fraud, and is not the choice of a majority of the Republican voters of said county, and I do further solemnly swear that I will use my best efforts to persuade and induce others to not vote for said ticket. And I do further swear that I will never reveal to any person whatsoever any of the plans, movements, methods, or efforts of any person or persons connected with any movements or organization looking to the defeat of or opposition to said so-called Republican ticket, and I do further solemnly swear that I will not reveal to any person the name of any persons connected with or taking any part in said movement or organization, so help me God.

“Taken, sworn to and subscribed before me, this ..... day of ..... 1900.

Postoffice ....., Precinct ....., District .....

The administration of such an oath is contrary to public policy, is a species of intimidation, and the act of said Notary Public in administering the same is a case of gross official misconduct. The right of the elective franchise is the highest right that a citizen can exercise in a republican form of government; and no public official of Kanawha county, or any other county in this State, can lawfully administer an oath to any voter which will limit him in any manner in the full and free exercise of this great right, according to his honest convictions at the time of casting his ballot. To attempt to intimidate a voter, and place him under duress, and thereby limit his right to vote for whom he pleases by administering to him an oath, more than two months before the election, that he will vote for certain persons, or will not vote for certain persons, is a violation of law and a crime against good government and good morals. No voter has a legal or moral right to take and subscribe to

such an oath, and no public officer can legally administer it. Such an oath being unlawful and against public policy, is not binding in law nor in good morals, and is therefore absolutely null and void.

It was also established by the testimony taken before me in this case that Notary Brown held out inducements to certain voters to take said oaths in the form of a consideration of money or its equivalent. Such inducements cannot be considered otherwise than as bribery, which is felony under our statutes.

Notaries Public are authorized to administer lawful oaths only; not unlawful ones. All such oaths as the one above quoted or which attempt to abridge the rights and liberties of a citizen are unlawful, and have no binding force or effect in law or in morals upon the persons who took and subscribed to them. Notaries Public are appointed for the convenience of the public, and not for the purpose of corrupting the people. It is, therefore, proper that their acts should be carefully supervised by the power that creates them for the reason that they are not restricted by a tenure of office, except *good behavior*, nor are they directly amenable to the people who elect other officials.

The Constitution and Statutes confer upon the Governor the power to remove from office any officer whom he may appoint for official misconduct, incompetency, neglect of duty, gross immorality or malfeasance in office. These provisions not only confer upon the Governor the right of removal of a Notary Public from office, but make it his duty to do so when proper cause is clearly established.

Now, therefore, I, George W. Atkinson, Governor of the State of West Virginia, do hereby revoke the commission of William S. Brown as Notary Public in and for the county of Kanawha, and he is hereby directed to return his commission of office to the Secretary of State of the State of West Virginia; and the Clerk of the County Court of Kanawha County is directed to record this Executive Order in his office, and that any act or acts of said Notary on and after this date are null and void.

Given under my hand at the Executive Chamber, in the City of Charleston, this 15th day of September, 1900, and the thirty-eighth year of the State.

G. W. ATKINSON.

By the Governor:

WM. M. O. DAWSON,  
Secretary of State.

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PROCLAMATION BY THE GOVERNOR.

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STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA,  
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT.

I, G. W. Atkinson, Governor of the State of West Virginia, Pursuant to the Constitution and laws of the United States of America and of the laws of this State, do hereby issue this, my proclamation, announcing to the voters of the State of West Virginia that on the Tuesday next after the first Monday in November, in the year one thousand and nine hundred, an election will be had, held and conducted throughout the State at the various voting precincts thereof, for the purpose of choosing six electors for President and Vice-President of the United States.

[SEAL.]

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of State, at the City of Charleston on this the 4th day of September, 1900, and of the State the thirty-eighth.

G. W. ATKINSON,

By the Governor:

WM. M. W. DAWSON,  
Secretary of State.

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EXECUTIVE ORDER.

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STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA,  
EXECUTIVE CHAMBER.

WHEREAS, at the February term, 1898, one Jack Hendershott was tried and convicted of a Felony by the Criminal Court of Wood County, and was sentenced to the Penitentiary of this State for the term of five years by said Court; and,

WHEREAS, on the 24th day of July, 1900, I as Governor of the State of West Virginia released the said Hendershott from



the Penitentiary upon parole, and in so doing I used the language following, to-wit:—"I concur in above opinion of the Advisory Board of Pardons, and direct Jack Hendershott's release from the Penitentiary, but it must be understood and agreed by the said Hendershott that should he be guilty of any felony at any time in the future, he shall be returned to the Penitentiary and shall be required there to serve the full term of imprisonment fixed by the Court in this case—(See Section 20 of Chapter 14 of the Code"; and,

WHEREAS, it has been clearly proven before me that the said Hendershott has been indicted for a felony in the Criminal Court of Wood County since I granted a parole based upon his good behavior in the future, and also that said Hendershott has been conducting himself in an unlawful manner in said Wood County in many and diverse ways which have forfeited the conditions of his parole,

THEREFORE, I, G. W. Atkinson, Governor of the State of West Virginia, by the authority vested in me by Section 20 of Chapter 14 of the Code of this State, do hereby order and direct the Sheriff of Wood County to return the said Jack Hendershott to the Penitentiary at Moundsville, where he shall be required to serve the remainder of the term of the sentence originally imposed upon him by the Judge of the Criminal Court of said Wood County, and the Superintendent of the Penitentiary is hereby directed to receive the said Hendershott as a prisoner therein.

It is further ordered that the Sheriff of Wood County shall be allowed and paid his lawful fees for executing this Executive Order, as provided by the Section and Chapter of the laws of West Virginia herein cited.

[SEAL.]

Given under my hand and the Less  
Seal of the State of West Virginia, at  
Charleston, this 27th day of September,  
in the year of our Lord, 1900,  
and of the State the 38th.

G. W. ATKINSON,

By the Governor:

WM. M. W. DAWSON,  
Secretary of State.

## THANKSGIVING PROCLAMATION.

In all Christian lands: every year, for generations past, one day is set apart as a day of Thanksgiving to Almighty God for His benefactions to mankind. Therefore, I, George W. Atkinson, Governor of the State of West Virginia, do call upon all of our people, within the limits of the State, to observe

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 29TH, 1900,

for the furtherance of this commendable custom; and I request as many as can conveniently do so, to assemble together in places dedicated to public worship, that God may be glorified and honored for his unnumbered kindnesses and mercies which He has bestowed upon us.

To God we raise our hearts in praise,  
And of His mercies sing;  
In prayer we bow before His throne,  
To Him our trophies bring,  
Our faith in Him is one,

For peace and plenty, joy and rest,  
Thanksgivings here we raise,  
In public and in private place  
His mercies we now praise,  
Our trust in Him is one.

Years and cycles come and go,  
And roll forever on  
Adown the corridors of time,  
God's will, not ours be done,  
Our hope in Him is one.

[SEAL.]

Done at the City of Charleston, this 1st day  
of November, in the year of our Lord, 1900,  
and of the State the thirty-eighth.

G. W. ATKINSON.

By the Governor,

WM. M. O. DAWSON,

Secretary of State.

UNIFORM NATIONAL DIVORCE LAW.

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STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA,  
EXECUTIVE CHAMBER,  
Charleston, November 9, 1900.

MR. GILSON WILLETS,  
"Christian Herald,"  
No. 91 Bible House,  
New York City.

MY DEAR SIR—

Replying to your letter of the 7th inst., I wish to say that, in my opinion, we should have a uniform and just National divorce law; one which will apply alike in every State and Territory of the Republic. So many of our States have laws that are loose and indifferent relative to the abolishing of marital relations, that the matter of procuring divorces has become disgusting to intelligent, fair-minded people. In my own experience, I know of a number of persons who have been divorced by making applications in remote States from where the parties reside. Bills have been filed and advertisements inserted in local newspapers, and, as a matter of fact, one of the parties to the marital contract knew nothing about the application for divorce until it was granted by the court. This, of course, is all wrong, and I am sure the best sentiment of modern civilization is universally against it. Your idea of having a universal divorce law, one which applies to all the States alike, is a proper one, and I can see no reason why all the States and Territories cannot be induced to agree upon a law which will be acceptable to all alike. I have not given the matter close enough attention to suggest anything as to the practical features or character of the law which ought to be adopted. I am sure, however, that such a law is possible and plausible, and that your effort to secure the adoption of the same can be made successful. I commend your enterprise in the matter, and trust that your efforts along this line may prove successful.

I have the honor to be,

Your most obedient servant,

G. W. ATKINSON,  
Governor of West Virginia.



A SENTENCE EXPRESSION ON NATIONAL THANKSGIVING.

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STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA,  
EXECUTIVE CHAMBER,  
CHARLESTON, November 10, 1900.

To "The World,"  
New York,  
N. Y.:—

My answer to your one sentence inquiry, by telegraph, as to what we as a Nation should be most thankful for is, An open Bible, the Christian Religion, our efficient Public School System in all of the States, and the manifest higher conception of life and duty by the better element of our people generally throughout the land.

Very respectfully,  
G. W. ATKINSON,  
Governor of West Va.



## GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,  
CHARLESTON, WEST VIRGINIA,  
JANUARY 9, 1901.

Gentlemen of the Senate and House of Delegates:

The time has come again for you to assemble as a body to legislate for the interests of the people of the State, and I congratulate you upon the auspicious circumstances which surround you. Contentment is manifest on every hand. Labor is employed. Farmers are prosperous. Money is plentiful. Business, in all of its avenues, was never better. Capital is yielding a fair reward to its holders. No scourge, of any sort, has visited us since your last assembling. The clouds of war, which hung over us two years ago, have dispersed. The glory of the Nation has been extended. Manufacturers were never more prosperous since West Virginia's admission to the sisterhood of States. Our industries are on an upward tide. Money was never more plentiful. Our population is rapidly increasing. Our laws have been rigidly enforced. Our schools, of all grades, are moving forward, and are steadily widening their scope of influence and power. The song of the saw is heard, early and late, along our vales and hillsides, transforming our timber into lumber for which there is constant demand. New mines are opening in all of the available sections of the State, and the "dusky diamond," which is more valuable than gold, is being brought to the surface, thereby pouring millions of treasure into the lap of commerce. We owe no State debt. Capital is coming within our borders for profitable investment. In short, in the midst of health and plenty, our citizens are taking a mighty hand in the development of the resources with which a Benificent Providence has bestowed upon us as a people and a State.

We are now the first of all the States in the production of carbon oil and gas; second in coke production; third, and nearly second, in the output of coal, and are close to first place in lumber. At the present rate of development, it will not be long until we will take second place from Illinois in the production of coal, and first place from Pennsylvania in the manufacture of coke. With our seventeen thousand square miles of coal area, and our numerous and superior seams of all classes of bituminous coals, it is only a question of a limited number of years for West Virginia to lead all of her sister States in this class of mineral wealth.



### CONDITION OF THE STATE'S FINANCES.

The Bi-ennial reports of the Auditor and Treasurer are complete State documents, and are at once evidence of the fact that these officers have been faithful to their trusts, and worthy of the confidence reposed in them by the voters of the State. I ask for these reports your careful perusal and inspection.

At the close of the fiscal year, October 31, 1900, the balances in the Treasury were as follows:

To the credit of the State Fund .....	\$ 228,819.96
To the credit of the "General" School Fund, ..	387,460.71
To the credit of the School Fund (Uninvested) ..	518,468.55
To the credit of the Irreducible School Fund ..	522,500.00

Making a total balance of .....\$1,657,249.22

The treasury balance for the fiscal year of 1900 is worthy of special consideration, because of the fact that the Honorable Legislature, at its session two years ago, appropriated in the neighborhood of a half million dollars more money for public purposes, than had been appropriated at any preceding session, and yet the rate of taxation upon the property of the people of the State was not increased, and at the same time every State obligation has been met, no money has been borrowed for general purposes, and still the healthy balance shown by the Treasurer's annual report is found in the State Treasury. Without any desire on my part to laudate the present administration, it seems to me that this fact is a subject of congratulation to the people of West Virginia.

### TEMPORARY LOANS.

Under the provisions of Section 26 of Chapter 14 of the Code, I borrowed from the Charleston National Bank the following sums of money for the purposes below mentioned:

May 16, 1900, for Capitol Contingent and Repair Fund ..	\$2,000.00
May 29, 1900, for Capitol Contingent and Repair Fund ..	1,000.00
Aug. 23, 1900, for Capitol Contingent and Repair Fund ..	1,000.00
July 2, 1900, for premiums on insurance policies at Weston Hospital .....	1,067.39
Dec. 11, 1900, for Board of West Virginia Commission- ers to Pan-American Exposition .....	10,000.00

All of these loans were secured at the rate of 6 per cent. per annum.

The Capitol Contingent and Repair Fund, on account of the construction of a new system of boilers, exhausted the appropriation for repair purposes of the Capitol building, and it was necessary to replenish said fund by the loans above mentioned.

The system of insurance upon the State's properties was en-

tirely changed; the forms of the policies were all made concurrent; the amount of insurance formerly carried upon many of the buildings was materially reduced, and all of the policies were re-written practically at the same time and for the period of five years, by which arrangement two-fifths of the premiums were saved to the State. It therefore became necessary to borrow the \$1,067.39 above mentioned in order to properly classify the State's insurance, and at the same time procure the savings above mentioned.

The loan secured for the Pan-American Exposition I have fully discussed under that particular head.

### STATE INSTITUTIONS.

It has been the policy of West Virginia, from its organization, to make liberal provisions and appropriations for the relief of the poor and unfortunate, and for the custody and reformation of the vicious. The results of this policy have been highly creditable to the enlightened humanity of her legislation. The reformatory, charitable, educational and penal institutions under her immediate control, are well and carefully administered, and without a single exception, are in most satisfactory conditions.

In many respects the most important department of charitable work is that which deals with the young. With many other classes of the dependent and unfortunate, whether their condition is due to inheritance, to vice or to mischance, the problem presented is simply how best to provide for their humane custody and control until death shall bring relief; but with children, even those who begin life under adverse conditions, the problem is at once more difficult and more hopeful. In the interest both of humanity and a wise economy, special effort should be made to render as favorable as possible the opportunities for growth into worthy manhood which the State extends to the children committed to its charge.

### THE DEAF AND BLIND SCHOOLS.

The Schools for the Deaf and Blind, at Romney, have grown to such proportions that some action should be taken with reference to better accommodations, either in the way of enlarging the present buildings, or a separation of the Schools. The latter plan appeals to my judgment, feeling as I do, that there is no parallelism in the class-work, nor congeniality in personal association between the two departments.

Under the present arrangement, some parts of the building, such as dining-room, lavatories, shops and dormitories have to be used in common, and this brings about inconveniences that cannot be eliminated except by separation.

The methods of instruction and the grade of work are entirely dissimilar, and to administer one department successfully, almost precludes the other from its proper share of effective supervisory service, and it has long been my conviction, that these two classes should be under separate management.

From official information received, the buildings at Romney would accommodate the Deaf of this State for a number of years, and the Blind could be located at some more accessible point, where there would be superior local advantages to those offered by the present location. One of our larger towns would afford a stimulus in the way of occasional lectures, and music which would inspire the Blind in the direction of their training. Other States that have investigated this matter, have uniformly decided, and most of them carried into effect, a separation of the schools, and I would commend to your judgment this plan for a solution of the question which now presents itself for our consideration. To more clearly express my views on this important subject, I submit the following brief argument:—

1. Separation is in line with the policy of the older schools that have tried the dual system, all of them having divided the work, and some of them many years ago, with the uniform result of greatly increasing the efficiency and usefulness of the separated schools. There are only three or four considerable schools that have not yet divided the work, and the movement is on even in those, or has recently been, to place themselves on the better basis.

2. The utter dissimilarity of methods of instruction in the two schools, and the incompatibility of disposition in the two classes of children, emphasize the necessity of prompt separation from the children's standpoint; while the crowded condition of the buildings makes it peremptory as a matter of safety. It is a matter of common observation that the blind require more room than the deaf for their music and other special exercises. The portions of these buildings now occupied by the blind department, if vacated, would make room for a hundred and fifty deaf pupils, possibly as much room as would be required for the natural increase of the school for ten or more years. They are now used by only fifty or sixty blind pupils.

3. Out of such a division of the schools as would send the blind school to more suitable quarters, could grow no just cause of opposition from the neighborhood, as the present list of applications would keep up the numbers to at least what they are now, and the school as a separate institution for the deaf would not be reduced. I am informed that there is absolutely no room for more deaf pupils, and no dining room capacity for any more pupils of any kind, and greatly increased facilities would have to be provided at Romney, if the schools are not separated; but



by the separation, changes could be made that will give all the seating capacity for all the increase that is likely to come to us for years. There is no possibility of mixing the pupils so as to introduce deaf children to share the unoccupied space of the blind department, and the relief therefore must come from extensions.

4. It will cost scarcely more to make separate provision for the blind than it will to make room at Romney for both, and all the advantages to both classes that will accrue from a separation will be lost, while all the disadvantages increase seriously with the increase of both schools under the present dual system.

5. The remoteness of the present location of the schools operates disadvantageously to the blind for obvious reasons. They do not all come to the institution, and many of those who come do not remain to finish the course, while a few of these feel themselves obliged to seek school advantages in other States, where the schools will furnish them better advantages, as will be suggested below.

6. The better location of a school for the blind will greatly facilitate their education by giving them opportunities of hearing choice performances in music and lectures from eminent scholars, privileges that never come to them at Romney. It will also furnish greatly increased market facilities for the sale of the products of their industrial training, and afford a field for the practice of the art of tuning musical instruments, one of the most available means of livelihood for blind people.

7. Added to these great advantages, their education under a separate management, would afford them all the great results of a more personal and careful supervision in their work, a condition which cannot exist to the necessary perfection under a dual management.

8. It is recognized as an almost insurmountable difficulty in the equipment of these dual schools, to find executive heads for them who are broad enough to take equal interest and contribute equal assistance to both sides of the school. We certainly have nothing to complain of in that respect; but Mr. Rucker's broad and generous mind sees possibilities of doing better for the deaf if he were relieved of the care of the other school, while he equally well sees that the wise and proper care of the school for the blind, would be likely to give it great advantages from the change.

It is needless to invite your attention particularly to many other things that might be urged as reasons for separating the schools. If we could increase the range and compass of the education of the blind, they would be more likely to succeed in life, and that is a very great consideration. If we could get

more nearly all the pupils into the school who are entitled to come, that is another most important matter. They are sufficiently handicapped as it is, and any aid that can be given them in the unequal struggle of life, would seem to be a sort of due to them.

#### WEST VIRGINIA HOSPITAL FOR INSANE.

This is one of the largest and best managed institutions of the kind in the entire country. I have visited it two or three times within the past two years, and each time inspected it with great carefulness, and I found it in the best possible condition, splendidly equipped and excellently conducted. It is difficult for a layman to see in what particulars it could be improved, except in the enlargement of the buildings and improvements in their appliances. I have given special attention to this institution, because of a particular charge preferred by a few of the citizens of Weston against its superintendent. The charge, however, was most vigorously and searchingly investigated by a competent and fearless Board of Directors, and was proven to be unjust and ill founded. The truth was elicited by this rigid investigation, that Dr. W. E. Stathers, the superintendent, is a man of great executive ability, and at no time in the history of the Asylum, have the patients been better cared for, and the interests of the State more safely guarded.

The Board of Directors have given much of their valuable time to the conduct of this great eleemosynary institution, and are entitled to the thanks of our people for their energetic work. They are all men of affairs, and can ill afford to spend so much of their valuable time in protecting the interests of the State. Patriotism and public spirit alone inspired them to make the sacrifices they have done for the public weal.

The report of the Board of Directors, which will be placed in the hands of each of you, is complete in details, and shows the needs of the institution. Many valuable improvements have been made in the buildings, and others still are badly needed. The main building is growing old, and should be generally overhauled, and a special appropriation is asked by the Superintendent and the Board of Directors for this particular purpose. West Virginia is behind no State in properly caring for her unfortunate insane.

I call your special attention to the new methods introduced in diagnosing and treating diseases of patients in this hospital. The adding of a pathological department, the establishing of a training school, with a prescribed course of study for the attendants, and the daily consultation of the medical staff, covering all features of insanity, are indeed commendable. The management should be congratulated over the, by no means, inconsiderable number of patients that are annually discharged as

cured, and also for the strict economy shown in handling the money of the people. The reports of both the Superintendent and the Board of Directors cover every detail, and I am sure will be read by each of you with both interest and profit.

## SECOND HOSPITAL FOR INSANE.

During the past bi-ennial period, there have been admitted 450 patients, to this institution and the whole number treated during the fiscal year 1899 was 554, and for the year 1900, 616. There were discharged during the two years; as recovered, 176. The average per cent. of recoveries, on total number of admissions during the two years was 39.5 per cent, and the average mortality rate for the same period, on total number treated was 8 per cent. Remaining in Hospital September 30, 1900, 425.

I call your attention to the following which is quoted from the Superintendent's report: "The male department of this Hospital is nearly filled to its normal capacity, and the time is near at hand when the male insane of our State will be confined in county jails awaiting their turn for vacancies to occur at the Hospital, a condition of affairs neither humane nor economical, for ordinarily if the insane patient fails to receive proper care and treatment during the early or acute stages of the disease the chances of recovery are very slight, and by the patient lapsing into a chronic and incurable state of insanity his usefulness to society is lost, and he becomes a lasting and permanent expense to the commonwealth." This subject should receive your prompt and careful consideration, in order that proper provision may be made, at Spencer or elsewhere for this class of patients. The Idiot, Epileptic and Insane represent three great classes, of the State's population, which must necessarily by reason of the nature of their afflictions, be subjects for State care, and in this connection I would recommend that the Institution at Huntington, known as the "Asylum for Incurables," should be constructed with a view of relieving the overcrowded conditions of our two Hospitals for the Insane, and statutory changes made which will definitely specify the class of patients that are to be admitted and cared for, at this last named Institution.

I have every reason to believe that the various sums set forth by the Board of Directors of the Second Hospital for the Insane, in their report, are essential for the successful maintenance of this institution, and for a detailed statement of these needed appropriations, you are referred to the above report. Particularly do I call your attention to this Hospital's scarcity of water. During the past summer it became repeatedly necessary to close the Steam Laundry and Ice Plant, owing to the



scarcity of water, and there was not sufficient water to flush water closets more than once a day, and the patients could not be bathed, except in cases of the greatest necessity, and it is my opinion that unless remedied, this great evil will grow, in proportion to the increase in the Hospital population. An appropriation for additional wells and a reservoir should be made.

All departments of this Hospital have been maintained to a high point of excellency and the entire institution is in a most flourishing condition. Speaking of the finances of the Hospital, I quote the following from the report of the Board of Directors: "It is a source of pride to the Board of Directors to be able to state that for the first time since the Hospital has been organized that there is no deficit in the current expense fund (and in fact in no other fund), but there was on October 1st, 1900, a surplus of \$10,585.60. It is but due to a most faithful and efficient officer, Dr. L. V. Guthrie, the Superintendent, to state in this connection, that the above most excellent showing of the financial condition of the institution is due mainly, if not wholly, to his untiring energy, zeal, economy and personal supervision and attention to every detail in the management of the Hospital. More than once the Board has seen proper to commend Dr. Guthrie's management, and entered the same upon its records, and we take pleasure in thus again publicly commending him."

Recently while visiting at the Second Hospital, I was much impressed by many noticable improvements, such as brick walks, ice plant, new dynamo, and arc lights for the lighting of grounds, sodding and grassing of the lawns, planting of trees, telephonic connections from the various wards to the Superintendent's office, increased facilities for protecting the buildings against fire, a plant for the disposal of the Hospital sewage, and an industrial department for the manufacturing of mattresses, brooms, mops and Hospital furniture, and in fact a general appearance of thrift and good management.

The Superintendent, Dr. L. V. Guthrie, has amply proven that he is fully qualified as physician, financier, and executive officer, to successfully conduct the affairs of this or any great eleemosynary Institution and for a more detailed statement of the condition of the above Institution, you are referred to the Fourth Bi-ennial Report.

### HOME FOR INCURABLES.

I have watched with unabating interest, the steady growth of this new home for the hopeless, helpless, and hapless citizens of our prosperous, thrifty State. This is, I am informed, the first eleemosynary institution of this kind that has yet been undertaken by any of the States of this great Republic. It was thought

out by Mrs. Mary Jackson Ruffner, of Charleston, who is now, and has been from the beginning, the President of the Board of Directors of the Home. She is a woman of ability, energy, industry and heart. Only one who is imbued with a truly genuine Samaritan spirit, would sacrifice what she has done in bringing into existence this, to be, great institution, as an abiding place for those that are known to be beyond medical relief, and who are financially unable to care for themselves. This great-hearted, public-spirited lady of our State, is, therefore, the Mother of this Incurables' Home. For the past two years, she has devoted practically all of her time to the care of the institution, and with the aid of an able and conscientious Board of Directors, two large buildings have been constructed, one of which has been filled to its utmost capacity for more than two years past. The second building, which is much more commodious than the first, is now practically ready for occupancy. The work, therefore, of general construction is moving steadily forward, and the Board of Directors have stated in detail the amount of money absolutely necessary to keep the work going on, as well as for the support of the inmates of the institution. I trust that the most liberal spirit on your part towards this institution will be manifested, so that it may not be hampered in the charitable work that it has started out to do.

I have visited the Home several times, and while it is painful to look upon its patient inmates, yet it is most gratifying for one to know that the State of West Virginia has provided a commodious place for their comfort.

The two buildings, of the series, which have been erected, are of modern architecture, and when the entire plan of the architect has been carried out, the Home will be a credit to any State of the Union. Close attention has been given to the construction of these buildings by the Executive Committee of the Board of Directors, and I am satisfied that every interest of the State has been most carefully guarded. I ask a thoughtful perusal of the report of both the Superintendent and the Board of Directors which contain even the minutest details of the management of the institution.

#### BOYS' REFORM SCHOOL.

I visited this school twice during the year 1900, the first time to inspect it, and the second to assist in laying the corner stone of the new administration building. Both visits revealed very satisfactory conditions. The boys are well clothed and fed, and are at all times kept under proper surveillance. They are kept in school half of each week day, and the remainder is spent at mechanical work or upon the farm. The moral tone of the institution is excellent and the *esprit de corps* unsurpassed. They

are organized on a military basis, are all uniformed, and are surprisingly well drilled. They have a brass band made up from the student body, and they perform quite satisfactorily. On the whole, the management of both the Superintendent, Major Joseph C. Gluck, and the Board of Directors, is all that could be asked. I am confident that many of the reckless boys now confined in this institution, will develop into representative citizens of the State.

During the month of August, of last year, the water supply at this school became practically exhausted. The Board of Directors appealed to me for advice as to what course to pursue to supply this want. I was at the institution at the time, and went over the situation carefully with the Board. We were "confronted with a condition and not a theory," and I promptly advised the borrowing of a sufficient sum of money to lay a pipe from the Tygarts Valley river to the institution, purchase a boiler and a pump, and in this way procure a proper water supply. This course was taken, and all of the details are fully set out in the report of the Board of Directors. It was, indeed, the only thing that could be done to meet the emergency, and we accordingly assumed the responsibility of the debt, feeling confident that your honorable body would appropriate the money out of the treasury to discharge the obligation.

### INDUSTRIAL HOME FOR GIRLS.

The condition of this institution is most gratifying. It is doing a noble work. It is most admirably managed. Its prospect is most encouraging. It is worth a trip across the State to visit it. To rescue one girl is to rescue many, because one badly disposed girl takes others with her, and so one properly rescued means the saving of others. The percentage of long-established institutions similar to this one, show ninety per cent. of saved girls. To properly maintain this Home, therefore, unquestionably is the duty of the State. I bespeak for it your earnest sympathy and co-operation. It badly needs expanding, so as to make room for many who cannot now be accepted. Many young, incorrigible girls, are now waiting for the erection of a new building so they can be received and cared for and prepared for useful lives. A sufficient appropriation should be set apart for a large addition to the present building, and for the increasing needs of the institution generally. The Board of Directors have been greatly hampered because of the skimp appropriation made by the last Legislature. It was necessary to borrow a considerable sum of money in order to prevent the closing of the doors of the Home. This act of the Board I heartily approved, and I am confident that you will make it good. The Superintendent, Miss Elizabeth Clohan, is a superior officer, and is in every way



equipped for the honorable position she has so ably filled. The Board of Directors, which has shown an unusual interest in its safe and proper management from the beginning, has set out in its bi-ennial report to me, the needs of the institution, and to this report I beg to refer you for all details.

### THE UNIVERSITY.

The bi-ennial report of the Board of Regents of the State University shows that this institution has been making good progress during the past two years. The attendance of resident students has increased during these two years from 644 to 885. The standard required for admission and for degrees is higher than ever before, and it is confidently believed that the quality of the work done has improved with the increase in numbers and in requirements for degrees. The University has during these two years been in possession of more equipment and greater facilities in the way of libraries, laboratories and other advantages than ever before. This is as it should be, and it is to be hoped that the improvement will continue.

The bi-ennial report shows that the number of women students at the University has increased during these two years from 112 to 240. This is an increase of women students of more than one hundred per cent. in two years, which indicates that the young women of West Virginia are resorting in rapidly increasing numbers to the State University.

The gift to the University of the splendid pipe organ (costing \$5,400) by two generous friends is, it is to be hoped, only the beginning of a long series of individual gifts to our State University. Thus far West Virginia University has not received many gifts from private individuals, but the University has many needs which the State is not able to supply, and it is to be hoped that as the University increases in power and influence and improves its work, it will become the pleasure and the pride of our prosperous private citizens to contribute largely by personal gifts to its important work.

The burning of the Mechanical Hall, shortly after the adjournment of the last Legislature, makes necessary a large appropriation for the erection and equipment of a new Mechanical Hall. The department of Mechanical Engineering is especially important to our State, and its needs should receive careful consideration. The various recommendations included in the report deserve, and will, I am sure, receive the careful consideration of the members of the Legislature.

The finances of the University are in excellent condition. The Treasurer's report sets forth in great detail the various items of expenditures during the past two years.

The appropriations asked for running expenses for the ensu-

ing two years amount to \$75,900 per year, and for permanent improvements \$97,746.20 for the year 1900-1, and \$97,167.00 for the year 1901-2. These estimates of the needs of the institution have been considered with the utmost care by the Board of Regents, which is composed of conservative men, who appreciate the financial condition of the State, as well as the needs of the University. Their estimates may be relied upon. I trust it will be the pleasure of the Legislature to make liberal appropriations to this important institution.

### WEST VIRGINIA COLORED INSTITUTE.

This educational institution is improving every year. Its scope of work is steadily widening. Its influence is extending, and its good effects can be readily seen on every hand. Its president is an up to date man, competent, industrious, faithful and reliable. He has introduced many new methods of instruction, which are already showing good results. The corps of teachers are well equipped for their respective positions, and the Board of Regents are specially interested in the institution, and devote their best energies to accomplish proper results. The buildings constructed within the past two years, have added much, not only to the real value of the property, but have furnished additional room for the accommodation of the student body, and have given them fresh encouragement in their particular lines of work. The *esprit de corps* of the institution is most gratifying, and I confidently expect, within a very few years, to see this one of the leading colored educational institutions in the entire South. In my opinion it has a great future.

It, however, needs additional appliances in order that it may accomplish still better results, and as our Legislatures have hitherto dealt liberally with it, I confidently expect even greater liberality in the future. Our young colored people seem anxious to secure higher grade educations, and as this is the only school within the State that can meet this want, we should therefore be more than ordinarily generous in its support and protection.

### STATE NORMAL SCHOOLS.

The report of the Regents of these six schools of the State, reveals very satisfactory conditions in all of them. The total attendance for the year was 1,443, showing an increase over the preceding year of 186. Each of these schools has commodious buildings, and are properly equipped to do good work. I am also persuaded that there is a marked improvement in the teaching force employed at each and all of them. As at the State University, I am happy in being able to state that politics have

been wholly and totally kept out of these State institutions. I have found from years of observation, that no State school can prosper so long as it is even indirectly controlled by political bias or prejudice. From the day I entered upon the duties of the office of the State's Chief Executive, I have, on every possible occasion, discouraged any and all movements to allow politics, of any sort, to enter any of our schools, from the primary departments of our public schools up to, and including, the State University. I have found it, in many instances, a rough road to travel, but it is right—forever right, and will abundantly pay in the end. The fruits of this determination are already being garnered.

Normal schools are, or should be, unique in their work. Their objects are not only to educate those who attend them, but to teach them how to teach others. In short, to train them for a life work, so that they may be able to properly train others. I regret to have to say that I do not believe a single one of our Normal Schools is doing real normal work. What they are doing mainly is academic work, which is only auxiliary to the work that they were designed to do. I therefore again call your attention to my recommendation to your Honorable Body two years ago, that the school at Huntington should be made a Normal School *per se*, with a curriculum embracing normal work only. The other five schools can then be continued as academies, which, in the main, they now are, and will be constant feeders for the one at Huntington, where pedagogy alone should be taught. Until this is done, we can never claim that West Virginia is engaged in the real work of properly educating and equipping young men and young women for one of the highest and noblest of callings in life.

### MINING INDUSTRIES.

In his several annual reports, the Chief Mine Inspector has elaborately discussed all features pertaining to the greatest industry of our State—that of coal mining. West Virginia now occupies a place among the great coal producing States of which every West Virginian should be proud. Pennsylvania is the greatest coal producing State in the Western Hemisphere, Illinois second, and our own State third, with only two million tons behind Illinois. Until 1896 the State of Ohio outranked our State, but for the present year we have distanced the State of Ohio by five million tons, and at the rate at which coal mining is increasing in our "Mountain State," it will be but a few years until our tonnage will be second only to Pennsylvania. 29,000 men are employed at the mines in this State and hundreds of millions of dollars are invested in coal plants. The daily tonnage of coal, handled by the railroads in this State, mined



within this State will make a freight train twenty miles long which requires 100 locomotives to haul to market, provided no heavy grades are encountered.

The growth of this great industry has attracted the attention of the world. West Virginia coal is known far and wide. More than a million tons of our coal reached the Chicago market during the past year. It is used in Mexico, South America, Italy, Philipines and Africa.

As an illustration of the rapid rise of the State the following tabulation is cited:

#### BITUMINOUS COAL PRODUCING STATES.

Rank 1870.	Tons.	Rank 1880.	Tons.
1. Pennsylvania.....	7,798,517	1. Pennsylvania.....	18,425,163
2. Illinois.....	2,629,563	2. Illinois.....	6,115,377
3. Ohio.....	2,527,285	3. Ohio.....	6,008,595
4. Maryland.....	1,819,824	4. Maryland.....	2,228,917
5. Missouri.....	621,930	5. West Virginia.....	1,568,000
6. West Virginia.....	608,878		

Rank 1890.	Tons.	Rank 1900.	Tons.
1. Pennsylvania.....	36,174,089	1. Pennsylvania.....	75,000,000
2. Illinois.....	12,104,272	2. Illinois.....	24,000,000
3. Ohio.....	9,976,787	3. West Virginia.....	22,000,000
4. West Virginia.....	7,394,654	4. Ohio.....	17,000,000

West Virginia came from 6th place in 1870 to 5th in 1880 and 4th place in 1890 and since 1896 has safely held third rank.

As further illustration of the rapid growth of the coal mining industry in the State, attention is called to the total production of the State since 1870.

In 1870 the entire State produced 608,878 tons whereas one single mine in Marion County produced the past year 776,281 tons. In 1880 the State's product was 1,568,000 tons whereas at present we have six counties each producing over one million tons and two out of the six producing over four million tons.

In 1890 the State produced 7,394,654 tons, whereas at present the Counties of Fayette and Kanawha produce 6,003,892 tons, Mercer and McDowell produce 5,189,039 tons and Marion produces 3,000,000, Tucker 1,098,874, Harrison 647,430, Mineral 562,667 and Preston 403,610 tons respectively.

The increase alone in production since 1896 is greater than the entire production of the State in 1890. That you may learn of the benefit our State has had, there is herewith given a comparative statement from 1897 to 1900.

	1897	1898	1899	1900
No. days worked at the mines.....	197	214	240	261
No. of men employed.....	21,422	23,262	25,108	28,017
Price paid miners per ton.....	33.2 cts.	33.94 cts.	36.15 cts.	41.06 cts.
Miner's yearly wages.....	\$276.89	\$322.15	\$376.40	\$507.09
Selling price of coal per ton.....	70.3 cts.	65.95 cts.	63.19 cts.	75.00 cts.
Selling price of coke per ton.....	\$1.25	\$1.14	\$1.25	\$1.75
Production of coke (tons of 2,000 pounds).....	1,374,497	1,742,256	1,950,179	2,496,107

## INCREASE OF 1900 OVER 1897.

Days worked.....	64 or 32.4 per cent gain
Men employed.....	6,595 or 36.1 per cent gain
Price per ton paid miners.....	7.86 cts or 23.6 per cent gain
Miner's yearly wages.....	\$230.20 or 83.1 per cent gain
Production of coal (tons of 2,000 pounds)....	8,042,812 or 61.3 per cent gain
Production of coke (tons of 2,000 pounds)....	1,121,610 or 81.6 per cent gain

In the mining of this vast tonnage of coal, it is but the natural course of mining events that men should be injured and killed by accidents.

The great majority of the mines in this State are free from explosive gas. There are some twelve or fifteen which evolve explosive gas, and the greater number of these has only within the past four years become gaseous, for reason of the long distance they have been extended into the mountains and to points below water drainage.

The following table gives the number of persons killed and injured inside of the mine from the year 1897 to 1900, inclusive:

	1897	1898	1899	1900
No. of deaths.....	62x	76	79	133
No. of non-fatalities.....	167 x	115	165	164
No. of men employed inside of the mine.....	17,069	18,592	19,634	21,820
No. of men employed inside to one fatality... ..	275	245	248	164
No. of men employed inside to one non-fatality.....	102	161	119	13

x inside and outside of the mine.

The large number of deaths for 1900, being 133, is the result of the Red Ash Mine explosion in which 46 persons were killed.

The causes of these accidents were as stated in the following table:

	1897 per cent.	1898 per cent.	1899 per cent.	1900 per cent.
Falls of roof .....	50.21	65.87	64.50	54.56
Mine cars .....	21.83	19.91	19.35	15.77
Powder explosions ....	2.62	2.37	4.65	2.83
Gas explosions .....		2.84	1.07	18.29
Miscellaneous .....	25.34	9.01	10.43	8.55
Totals .....	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00

From the foregoing table it may be seen that the principal cause of accidents is due to falls of the roof. On March 6th, 1900, a most appalling disaster occurred at the Red Ash Mine in Fayette County in which 46 lives were lost.

Thorough investigation was made into the cause of this accident and it was found that the disaster was due to the explosion of gas within the mine, aided somewhat by the presence of dust. The investigation further revealed the fact that gas was known to exist in the mine and to prevent the possibility of an explosion there was employed, in compliance with our mining statutes, a "fire boss" whose duty it was to examine the mine each morning before the miners and laborers entered the mine. Our mining laws specifically direct that the men shall not enter gaseous mines until the same shall have been examined by the fire boss and reported by him to be safe. The miners at the Red Ash Mine on the morning of the explosion did not wait to receive the report of the fire boss, but entered the mine twenty minutes after the fire boss had entered. The men went into all sections of the mine, and in one section a body of gas had accumulated and upon the arrival of one of the laborers at that point his lamp ignited the gas and an explosion followed, killing all inside of the mine, including the fire boss. This mine is ventilated by means of a regular mining fan and the fan had been running 20 minutes when the explosion occurred. Had the fan been running an hour or two hours previous to the hour the men entered the mine, it is most probable this disaster would not have happened. At this point, permit me to call attention to the fact that, in anticipation of just such a calamity, the Chief Mine Inspector, in his annual report for 1898, proposed legislation which had for its purpose the prevention of mine explosions, and in my message to the Legislature of 1899, I recommended its adoption. This bill passed the House of Delegates unanimously but failed of passage in the Senate.

Again in his annual report for 1899, the Chief Mine Inspector said, "This department is apprehensive of the occurrence of some shocking calamity at the gaseous mines in the State, as the result of the failure of the enacting into law certain important sections of the Bill proposed." Shall the lives of our laboring people be further jeopardized when a remedy is at hand?

On November 2nd, 1900, at 11:30 o'clock P. M. there was an explosion in the Berrysburg Mine, in Barbour County, belonging to the Southern Coal & Transportation Co., which resulted in the deaths of fourteen men. The investigation made after this explosion was thorough, and a coroner's inquest was had which lasted the greater part of a day. Much evidence and expert testimony were obtained. The mine was a new one, had been opened only a few months and was equipped with all modern appliances for ventilation, haulage, drainage, etc.



There had never been found any explosive gas in this mine and it was never and is not now considered a gaseous mine.

The explosion was the result of the explosion of powder on the main heading of the mine, which explosion in turn caused the dust, powder and dynamite smoke in the mine to explode. The evidence taken at the inquest and examination revealed a condition horrible to contemplate, that the mine had purposely been blown up by one or more of the men, employed in the mine on the fatal night, whose dead bodies were found blown to fragments just outside of the mine. No legislation could avert such a ghastly deed.

Doubtless many bills suggesting mining legislation will be introduced for passage before this legislature. The Chief Mine Inspector has, during the year just closed, requested each of the mining operations to make replies to questions pertaining to needed legislation.

Out of three hundred forms mailed, 118 were returned with the blanks filled.

The questions asked were, "1st. Do we need additional mining legislation? 2d. If so, upon what points? 3rd. Do you recommend that mine bosses be required to undergo examination to prove their competency? 4th. Do you recommend that fire bosses be required to undergo examination?"

To the first question, out of 118 replies, 13 state that there is need of additional legislation; 52 stated that there is not needed additional legislation; 67 recommend the examination of mine bosses; 69 recommend the examination of fire bosses, while 39 and 35 respectively are opposed to their examination.

The legislation suggested consisted of the following:

1. Abolition of company stores.
2. Weighing and measuring coal.
3. Protection of mines against abandoned oil and gas wells.
4. Mine surveyors should make affidavit to correctness of maps.
5. Prevention of use of Black Strap and other impure and noxious oils for illuminating purposes in mines.
6. Compelling Railroads to make car distribution upon basis of the output of the mines.
7. Reduction of assessment valuation on coal property which has been mined out.

Mr. W. P. Rend, an owner of large mining properties in the States of Pennsylvania, Ohio, Illinois and West Virginia, says, on the subject of requiring mine bosses and fire bosses to undergo examination, "most emphatically no. Practical experience in coal mining is of far greater importance than theoretical learning or the ability to answer such questions as are propounded in text books. Some of the best pit bosses I have had in my employ, have been men of limited education, who could not pass a theoretical examination.

"In the State of Ohio, (where certificates are not required), I have been operating several mines, and have for many years been able to get more capable and better pit bosses than in Pennsylvania, where I was only permitted to employ men who had passed the examination.

"Such a law would debar ninety-nine miners out of a hundred from the opportunities of filling a position that should be open to all. It seems to me that if the State appoints competent and efficient inspectors of mines, who will make examinations frequently, and require the pit bosses and fire bosses to strictly carry out their instructions, and further demand of the operators that fans of sufficient capacity be used to secure a good flow of air in all of the working places, all will then have been done that should be attempted by legislation."

During the past three years there have been two resignations of District Mine Inspectors for reason of the small salary attached to the office. Such men as are competent to hold the important position of District Mine Inspector, are more liberally remunerated by private coal companies and the State is deprived of their valued services. In the State of Pennsylvania, the Chief Mine Inspector and the District Inspectors receive an annual salary of \$3,000.00 and all necessary expenses. In the State of Ohio, the Chief Inspector receives a salary of \$2,000.00 and expenses, and the District Inspectors, of whom there are seven, \$1,200.00 and expenses.

I recommend that the salaries of the Chief Mine Inspector be \$1,800.00, and that the District Inspectors each be \$1,200.00 per annum.

At present, the first mining district, which includes all of the coal producing counties north of the Little Kanawha River, is too large for one inspector. The mines have so largely increased in number that it is impossible for one inspector to give each mine its needed attention, consequently I recommend the establishment of another District Mine Inspector. I again recommend the adoption of the bill proposed by the Chief Mine Inspector which may be found in his 1898 annual report.

## THE STATE BOARD OF AGRICULTURE.

Agriculture has always been the prime industry of every civilized people, yet we might say it never received the recognition it deserved until within the latter part of the century just closed. Since a bureau of agriculture has been created and made one of the head departments of our government, similar bureaus have been established by the several States, and the progress made in the upbuilding of our agriculture, dates from the time these bureaus were established.

The West Virginia State Board of Agriculture was made a

department of our State by an act of the legislature in 1891. I am proud to say that it has fulfilled its mission in a manner creditable to itself and the cause it has so nobly espoused. As a department of the State, it has gradually grown in importance and usefulness, and has contributed very largely to the development of the State's natural resources.

It serves as a bureau of general information to those seeking investment in the hidden wealth and timber, as well as those seeking after lands for grazing purposes, fruit growing and general farming. Requests for information along these lines meet with ready response by this Board, and no doubt is bearing much fruit. This, together with the advanced work that is being done for improving the condition of our rural people, places it among the leading departments of our rapidly growing commonwealth. There is noticable improvement in the breeding of improved stock, and greater interest is being manifested in commercial fruit growing, to which our soil and climate are so well adapted; and there is certainly greater care being taken in the cultural methods of general farming. It seems that every effort is being made to educate our farmers by means of farmers' institutes, and through the circulation of a monthly publication, both of which, have proved very successful in advancing the work. The farmer not being situated so as to enjoy the advantages of those engaged in commercial enterprises in keeping in touch with the progress of the times, it is proper that they receive due consideration.

Without the aid of this department, the progress of our rural people would be very slow, and the industry that feeds and clothes the rest of the world and furnishes our most substantial citizenship, would be permitted to suffer. West Virginia is an agricultural as well as a mining and manufacturing State, and we cannot reach our complete development if we permit our farming interests to go unheeded.

One of the principal divisions of work which this department has undertaken and has been so far successfully carried out, is in holding from one to three farmers' institutes in each county in the State each year. This plan of work brings the department in direct contact with the men who are tilling the soil, and its opportunities for usefulness are very great. In addition to the members of the Board, the assistance of the ablest and most competent persons are secured to give instructions on practical and up-to-date subjects, in the form of lectures and addresses. In addition to the efficient help thus rendered by the Experiment Station and College of Agriculture and the State Veterinarians, the best local talent are encouraged to assist in making these institutes an educational factor in every community. The topics discussed by some of these lecturers are scientific in character, and yet practical in their application, and are awakening an interest



in agriculture, its profits and possibilities, which will be of incalculable value to the State. There have been 133 of these institutes held during the past two years, and it is estimated that 20,515 farmers were in attendance.

These institutes cost the State about \$2,500 a year, and I firmly believe the State could well afford to pay twice this sum each year in this form of educational work, the benefits of which would soon be seen in the improved condition of our farming people. For farmers' institutes alone, the State of Pennsylvania makes an annual appropriation of \$12,500, and the State of Ohio last year spent over \$15,000. If this division of the work of the department is encouraged and properly pursued, we may predict excellent results for the future.

Another plan of educational work inaugurated by the Board, and which has met with the general approval of the farmers, is the monthly publication known as the "Farm Review." It is a medium through which the farmers are brought in touch with the Board, and are kept posted on all the progressive measures the Board is undertaking. This is so far considered one of the best mediums yet devised, to keep the mass of farmers informed from month to month as to the most recent investigations and research the Board is making in their behalf. The monthly reports of our crops and stock production, together with other interesting information, is printed and distributed through this medium.

There is a growing interest in thoroughbred live stock and you are requested to give this important industry due consideration. Acting under the provisions of Bill No. 72, Chapter 53, for the prevention and spread of contagious diseases among domestic animals, very effective work has been done. The prevalence of tuberculosis, rabies and blackleg among cattle, prevailed to an extent bordering on alarm, but by the aggressive steps taken, these together with contagious diseases affecting other live stock, have been very much reduced, and are being held in check so far as circumstances will permit. Our live stock interests should be protected, and in order that the department may be able to more successfully accomplish the task, I wish to recommend that proper measures be taken to prevent the importation of breeding animals into the State having infectious or contagious diseases. For the purpose of obtaining more reliable and accurate statistics of what our State produces in crops and stock, such recommendations as may be made for correcting the present inefficient system, will meet with my hearty approval.

Believing that the age demands it, and that the system is meeting with the highest approval where it has been tested, I fully concur in the recommendation asking that the law provide for the teaching of elementary agriculture in our public schools. I believe it would not only result in a more liberal and practi-

cal education in our rural districts, but would broaden the minds of all classes and elevate the profession generally.

The question of pure food products is one that should interest both the consumers and the honest producers. A large per cent. of the manufactured articles used as food for the human family, as well as mixed food for stock, are often adulterated. There is every reason to believe that the public is greatly imposed upon, the fraud being comparatively easy to perpetrate, as we have no law compelling an investigation. The imposition is likely to be all the greater, for the reason that our State stands alone, without some such protection.

The different agencies that are at work in the State, for the development of our agricultural resources, I believe, are all co-operating in the most friendly spirit with this department, which speaks well for all concerned, and is a source of encouragement and gratification.

This department has kindly assisted me in my endeavor to advance the development of the State's resources, and I wish to commend the efforts they have put forth, and hope that the recommendations which they have made, will be carefully considered, and the appropriations, cheerfully granted. They are not exorbitant, and I am confident it will meet the approval of the farmers, and will be economically used in a way that will benefit the State.

### STATE BANK LAW.

Your attention is also called to our banking system and banking laws. During the last few years, there has been a great increase in the number of "State banks." Many of these are splendid institutions and it is to be hoped that all of them are good; but a matter of such vital importance to our people cannot be too closely guarded. There is a general feeling that our present law is inadequate to our needs, and that a more careful and effective system of State supervision should be devised.

The report of the State Bank Examiner is a most satisfactory and encouraging document. The increase of deposits during the past twelve months is something wonderful, and is itself an argument why the strictest system of surveillance over State banking institutions should be devised and effectively enforced.

### DEPARTMENT OF LABOR.

In presenting to your Honorable Body the Sixth Biennial Report of the Commissioner of Labor, I feel assured that you will find therein much valuable information that will assist you to determine questions as to the rights and wants of labor, that must sooner or later be settled by legislation. From the report

of the Department of Labor I find the conditions under which labor is employed have not materially improved in the past two years. Labor should have some consideration from your Honorable Body at this time, and I trust such laws as are necessary to protect them and their interests will be enacted, and measures made for their enforcement. I will take up separately the subjects investigated by the Commissioner of Labor, and make recommendations for remedial legislation.

#### FACTORY REGULATIONS.

The information gathered through the Department of Inspection shows the importance of the State taking some action for the prevention of accidents and preservation of life and health in factories and other places of employment within the State. I recommend legislation requiring safety appliances to be attached to all dangerous machinery, shaftings, beltings, elevators, etc., and making provisions for hygienic regulations in factories and workshops and other places where labor is employed.

#### FEMALE LABOR.

I further recommend legislation requiring employers of female labor in mercantile, mechanical and other establishments where females are employed, to provide suitable seats to be used by them when they are not necessarily employed, and where it becomes necessary to change clothing, that dressing departments and toilet rooms be provided for the exclusive use of females; and all stairways used by females should be screened, and such other protection given them as will be necessary for their comfort and due to their sex.

#### CHILD LABOR.

The question of child labor occupies the public mind more perhaps than any other subject in the industrial world, and should have the earnest consideration of all who are interested in the future welfare of the American working man and woman. Being considered from an educational standpoint, it will not be denied that any physical or intellectual development on the part of the child will result in making him or her more capable and useful citizens, and the betterment of society. This age of mechanical improvement and progress demands intelligent, well-informed labor for the direction of modern devices, and requires a higher grade of intelligence on the part of the operator than the average boy or girl possesses. Through this investigation the fact is developed that child labor has increased nine and one-half per cent. in this State in the past two years; notwithstanding, we have on the statute a law requiring children of proper age to a continuous attendance at school until they are fourteen years of age. Section 10, Chapter 45, of the Code of 1899, thus defines the provision and reads as follows:



"Every person having under his control a child or children between the ages of eight and fourteen years shall cause such child or children to attend some public school in the city, independent district, or district, in which he resides, and such attendance shall continue for at least sixteen weeks of the school year, provided the school be in session as many as sixteen weeks, and for every neglect of such duty the person offending shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and shall upon conviction thereof before any justice, be fined \$2 for the first offense, and \$5 for any subsequent offense. An offense, as understood in this act, shall consist in failure to send to school any child or children for five consecutive days, except in case of sickness of such child or children, or other reasonable excuse. It shall be the duty of every trustee and teacher to inform against any one so offending, and upon a failure so to do, they shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and be fined not exceeding \$5, provided that if such child or children have attended for a like period of time a private day school, or if such child or children have been otherwise instructed for a like period of time in the branches of learning required by law to be taught in the public schools, or have already acquired such branches, or if his physical or mental condition is such as to render such attendance inexpedient, or impracticable, such penalty shall not be incurred. Provided, further, that in case there be no public school in session within two miles by the nearest traveled road of any person in the school district, he shall not be liable to the provisions of this act."

To my mind the law is plain upon this question. But the store room, factory and workshop will show the law as being violated all over the State every school day of the year. By this it is shown the Acts of 1887 relative to the employment of child labor is inadequate for the purpose for which it is intended. Therefore, it becomes necessary that a more stringent law should be enacted to prevent the employment of children of so tender an age.

To protect the children of our State against ignorance and to prepare them for the higher educational requirements in every department of life, I recommend the law be changed so as to make it unlawful to employ children under fourteen years of age in the mercantile, mining and manufacturing institutions in West Virginia.

#### PROTECTION OF MOTORMEN.

Laws providing for the protection of motormen from the inclemencies of the weather in certain seasons of the year are a necessity in West Virginia. Other States have taken the initiative in the direction of legislation in the interests of employes of street railways, which example might well be followed in this State. Men who are

compelled to expose themselves to the dangers incident to their employment should have proper protection from climatic influences during the winter months.

The use of vestibule cars by street railway companies during the colder months of the year, would go far toward the preservation of health and the prevention of serious illness. The attention of the State should be brought to this very important subject. Therefore, I recommend that the street railway companies and corporations operating in West Virginia be required to provide suitable protection for their motormen from the inclemencies of the weather.

### ARBITRATION.

The settlement of labor disputes by arbitration has received more attention and consideration in the past year than ever before, and the idea of State intervention through proper officials is favored by employers and the employed. The great industries of this commonwealth are frequently suspended by strikes and lockouts, resulting at times, in criminal violation of the law and entailing upon the State vast expense to protect life and property and preserve the public peace.

Conflicts between capital and labor in this State have not resulted seriously; but still, the future cannot be foreseen. Measures providing for arbitration and conciliation in all labor disputes should be adopted. Therefore, I recommend the establishment of a State Board of Arbitration and Conciliation for the adjustment of controversies between capital and labor in West Virginia.

### IMPORTATION OF LABOR.

Importation of labor in times of industrial disturbances has proven to be a menace to the public welfare, and has resulted seriously in some instances in other States; and would under similar circumstances, precipitate strife in West Virginia. Within the past year an instance of this occurred within our State as detailed in Part IV of the Report of the Commissioner of Labor.

The imported men are usually of the lowest grade intellectually and morally. The evil which grows out of such importations under the aggravating conditions which a strike oft-times produces may well claim the attention of our law makers. Importations of this character are not justified under any ordinary circumstances; and the evil results which grow out of such an act largely overbalances any good which could be realized. Prohibitive legislation seems imperative. Therefore, I recommend legislation prohibiting the importation of working men from other States to take men's places in times of labor disturbances within this State, provided the same can be done without in-

fringement upon the Constitution as to inter-state commerce regulations.

### LICENSING OF STATIONARY ENGINEERS.

The alarming increase of boiler explosions and the consequent results and loss of life, calls for legislation for the prevention of accidents from criminal carelessness in the handling of steam boilers. There should be a strong protest against the employment of incompetent men as stationary engineers. This is one of the features that enters the problem of boiler explosions. If the State would designate and require a reasonable but safe standard of qualifications to be possessed by all in charge of the same, it would have the effect of removing the cause. The Acts of 1897, relative to the licensing of stationary engineers, has proven to be inadequate for the purposes for which it was intended. I recommend that Chapter 89, of the Acts of 1897, be abolished, and, in lieu thereof would recommend the creating of a State Board of Examiners for stationary engineers and others having charge of steam generating apparatuses within the State.

### APPOINTMENT OF FACTORY INSPECTOR.

To carry out these regulations and to make more efficient provision for the inspection of factories, workshops and other places where labor is employed, I recommend the appointment of a Factory Inspector, who shall report annually to the Commissioner of Labor. Said Inspector to have power to enforce the law pertaining to this department, and prosecute all violations before the proper authority.

### EIGHT HOUR LAW.

The action of the last Legislature in making eight hours a legal day's work on all public works of the State, has resulted most successfully. This was a start in the right direction. I am now clearly of opinion that another step should be taken by declaring eight hours a standard day's work within the State. While it will not be possible to enforce a law of this character upon the individual employers of labor, yet they would generally adopt it, especially if it provides that if it is desirable on the part of employers to have their men work a greater number of hours and they consent so to do, and are paid for the over-time, no one could or would object to the enactment of such a law. I call your attention to this matter, with the earnest hope that such a law may be speedily enacted. Eight hours are long enough for any person to toil at manual labor, and as ten hours are now generally required as a day's work, if it were reduced to eight, one-fifth more employees could secure positions.



## NATIONAL GUARD.

In my last message to your Honorable Body, I asked special consideration of the needs of the National Guard, and endeavored to bring the same prominently before you, and I desire again to invite your special attention to this subject. It is one of supreme importance. It is the bulwark and backbone upon which rests the fabric of government. It is therefore, that I hold the military establishment of a free State should be the special object of pride and fostering care on the part of the law making body and of the Executive.

The spirit underlying our national institutions is founded upon the theory that the reserve forces of the Nation should be lodged within the respective States, and it is to our citizen soldiers that the Nation looks for its main reserve defence in time of war, and to which the State looks for the maintenance of the law and the preservation of order within its own borders in time of peace. This attribute of our National Guard system is the first essential that gives vigor and force to the limited sovereignty of each State in the federal compact.

My purpose in suggesting these elementary and basic principles is to emphasize the importance of this subject and to lay out broad ground upon which to construct the observations and recommendations that will follow. I think there has been considerable misapprehension on the part of the public and shared by some of our Legislators as to the composition, conduct and general conditions surrounding our National Guard system, as well as the larger principles and purposes underlying it. There seems to have been a disposition to regard it in some quarters as rather more ornamental than useful, and a failure to attach to it the serious consideration that it deserves and the support it should have. I do not know that any just ground ever existed for such a view and criticism of our Guard, but be this as it may in the past, I am sure there is no such cause for criticism now.

It has been the definite policy and fixed purpose of those in authority in which General Curtin has been conspicuous, to eliminate all extraneous matter and place the Guard on what may be termed a business-military basis, making it in fact what it should be in theory, viz: a serious, well organized, armed and equipped body of citizen soldiery, drilled and trained in the art of war, and ready to respond to any call of the Chief Executive. These bodies of men have been trained and equipped on lines modeled after the regular army, so far as the same could be done with our limited resources and the nature of our State system. A military establishment predicated upon these theories and so conducted, will always give us insurance against trouble at home, and preparation for any emergency which may arise abroad.

For a particular account of the organization and strength of the Guard and of its present condition and its needs, the attention of your Honorable Body is invited to the report of the Adjutant General, in which is embraced the reports of the Brigade Commander and other officers. From this it will be observed that the military establishment of the State, as now organized, comprises in addition to the General Staff of the Commander-in-Chief, (including the Adjutant General and his assistants), the Staff of the Brigade Commander, two Regiments of Infantry and attendant staffs, together with the Medical Department and the Signal Corps. The conditions revealed are very satisfactory within the limits of this organization and the resources at hand. It gives to the State a serviceable body of soldiers equal to any ordinary emergency that may arise and that its limited number could be expected to meet. The two Regiments of Infantry as at present organized, on a minimum basis, is insufficient to give perfect security to the growing needs of our State as pointed out by the Brigade Commander. Provision should be made, enabling a material increase in this force. The force as it now exists has been brought to its present proportions which represents an actual and serviceable strength, available for active duty. It is thus that the "paper strength" has been reduced to a minimum and the Guard placed upon the basis of a compact organization, so that the expenditure of the military fund for its conduct, maintenance and equipment might be productive of the most practical results.

The appropriation for the Guard is entirely inadequate, not only to meet the proper needs of the Guard limited as it is as now organized, but to enable the organizations to be increased in force and numbers to a degree corresponding to the necessities of a wise public policy, as cited above. The fixed expenses such as armory rents, store rooms, clerical services, uniform allowance, printing, etc., and such other expenses as are incidental to the service in the administration of the Guard as required by law, amount to at least \$15,000 annually, leaving under the present appropriation of \$25,000, but \$10,000 to cover all other expenses, including equipment and the cost of field exercises during the summer. The aforesaid estimate of \$15,000 is based upon actual figures as provided by law, and the most rigid economy practiced in the expenditure of funds for incidental purposes. The balance remaining out of the appropriation amounting to \$10,000, is obviously and totally insufficient to pay the costs of field exercises, not to mention such necessary equipment as falls upon the State to supply. A Brigade encampment alone costs about \$20,000.

I, therefore, feel constrained to urge that the present appropriation be increased to not less than \$40,000, annually. Considerable more money is really needed and could be expended ju-

diciously without the least extravagance, but, as I recognize the wisdom and necessity of our Legislature in exercising the strictest economy in the appropriation of money out of the public treasury, I therefore, recommend that the sum of \$40,000, annually, as stated above, be appropriated.

Other progressive States make ample provision for their military forces far distancing West Virginia in this respect. The amounts appropriated or provided for to support the Guard in other States annually give evidence of this fact. I have ascertained the figures in a number of States and submit them herewith:

Connecticut.....	\$150,000 00
Massachusetts .....	\$300,000 00 to 320,000 00
Maryland .....	50,000 00
Iowa.....	50,200 00
Illinois.....	210,000 00
Wisconsin.....	110,000 00
Ohio.....	170,282 00
New Jersey .....	151,700 00
Pennsylvania.....	400,000 00

During the late war with Spain, this State was called upon to furnish two regiments for the National Government, as I alluded to in my last message. These were recruited from the ranks of the National Guard, and thus avoided the necessity of calling upon the civilians of the State for the formation of these regiments. Although they did not get to the front, the record made by both officers and men in these regiments, was highly creditable to the State. Many of these men have since become members of the Regular Army and are now doing duty in the cause of our Country, and a number of our officers are filling important posts. Nearly all of those who returned to the State after the Spanish-American war, have re-entered the Guard and the experience gained by them in the U. S. service, has largely contributed to the present satisfactory standard of efficiency and discipline which it has now attained. During the past two years the officers of the Guard have labored with conscientious zeal to bring the military organization up to a high state of efficiency, and I am gratified to note that those officers and organizations which have not come up to the standard have been dropped from the rolls.

I will conclude my remarks on this important branch of our State Government by quoting the last paragraph in my late message to the Legislature: "Our State Guard is of inestimable value to the prosperity, growth and good name of our State, and we should leave nothing undone to make this great arm of the law more effective in the future than it has been in the past. Our young men are willing to render any service in their power,



at the command of the Chief Executive, to place West Virginia in the front rank of the most law-abiding states in the Union. We should, therefore, deal with them liberally and properly, because in emergencies we must implicitly rely upon them as the main factors in enforcing the law when unforeseen troubles may arise. In my humble judgment, you cannot be too liberal with this arm of the public service."

#### PUBLIC ROADS.

Many of the States of the Union are seriously considering the matter of public roads. Roads are the public highways for all classes of citizens. They are the arteries which lead to the centers of trade and commerce as much so as the arteries of the human body center in the heart of every human being. They are therefore of use to every citizen, high or low, rich or poor. Better rural schools, increased value of farm products, increased value of property, rural postal mail delivery, cheaper transportation,—all enter as important factors into this question. In short, the welfare of all of our people demands that good roads should be made and maintained throughout the State. The question that must confront you is, how best you can legislate to secure well constructed, graded roads throughout all of the counties of the Commonwealth? Our State is now in the thirty-eighth year of its existence, and, it seems to me, that we are away behind many of our sister States in the matter of public roads. It is true that we have expended a vast sum of money to secure satisfactory highways, and in most of our counties, we have apparently made no appreciable headway. Somehow, no system thus far tried has proven satisfactory, except in a limited number of counties. In my judgment, our apparent utter failures so far, lies in one fact, and that is, lack of concentration and completion of any one particular road. We spread out too much. We need a law that will require the authorities of each county to spend so much money of the people upon one particular road, and stick to that road until it is properly widened, graded, ditched and drained, so as to make it a complete job,—then, take up another section, and in the same way carry it on to completion. If this plan is required by a general law, it will not be many years until we shall have satisfactory public roads in every county in the State. But if we continue as we are now doing, and have been doing since West Virginia became a State, expending the people's money in each county by simply filling up the mudholes and cleaning out the rocks which necessarily accumulate in our roadways, without any attempt at grading, ditching and draining, our money thus expended will avail us practically nothing, and we will never have a creditable system of public road-ways.

Several of our counties, notably, Ohio, Cabell, Berkeley, Hamp-

shire, Hardy, Grant, Greenbrier, Monroe, Kanawha and a few others, have adopted the correct idea of making a road a good one, as far as it goes each year, and the next year hooking on where it left off the preceding year and carrying the good work forward to a final completion. This is the true and only way to ever secure good roads. Why, then, do not all of the counties adopt the same system? This is the question for the Legislature to solve, and this is the reason that I call your attention to this, the most important question you will be called upon to pass. I beg of you to enact a general law, if at all possible so to do, which will require the construction of roads by sections, and thus prevent the indiscriminate dumping of the taxes of the people into "chuck-holes" every year, as is now the prevailing custom in the most of the counties of the State.

I call special attention to this subject because the need of improvement is apparent and admitted, and because the benefits following it would be extensive. Many sections of the State, unsurpassed in beauty and fertility, are neglected and almost unknown, because the condition of the highways affording the only approach makes them difficult of access. A good road is one of the chief elements of the value of a farm. If its fertility be slight, it may still be desirable if its location and surroundings are attractive and the approaches suitable. In many sections, farm values which have been reduced by competition in the farming sections of the west, would, by good roads be brought into market. Every section is benefitted to the extent of its power to attract settlers from the overcrowded towns and cities. Good roads, every one knows, enlarge markets, raise the price of commodities of every sort, and all of the changes which the expenditure of money is likely to create, are thereby largely realized. West Virginia possesses natural advantages unsurpassed by any State. Better roads will bring them more generally to the attention of the people outside of the State. The subject, therefore, is of supreme importance to you as the law-making body for our people.

#### STATE GEOLOGICAL SURVEY.

The Legislature of 1897 established a State Geological and Economic Survey, and the Board created by the Act, entered upon its duties very soon thereafter. Professor I. C. White was appointed State Geologist, and with his usual vigor, began work in accordance with the provisions of the law.

The true meridians of the different county seats were found and marked. A preliminary State map, showing the coal formations, and the oil and gas sections, at that time developed, was prepared and published; and a volume on oil production which was intended to be one of a series, was written by Professor

White and was duly published, and carefully distributed. Other important investigations were begun, and were being rapidly pushed by the Board of Control. In short, the work done seemed to be most satisfactory to those of our people who were keeping themselves in touch with it.

For some reason, however, the Legislature, at its session of 1899, failed to make an appropriation to carry the important work forward, and necessarily the Board became inoperative.

It is only necessary for me to call your attention to this matter in order to have it revived. West Virginia is, *per se*, a mineral State, and no one, except those in public position, can conceive of the number of inquiries that are presented for authoritative information relative to the coal, oil and gas resources of the State.

The edition of the State map was disposed of within a very few months after its publication; and inquiries for information which only a geological survey can reveal, poured in upon us, and are still coming, notwithstanding the fact that I have written many hundreds of letters informing earnest inquirers that our State had, for a time, abandoned its undertaking to prepare an official exhibit of its wonderful resources.

I am confirmed in opinion that this Survey should be vigorously prosecuted. It will require, at fewest, six years, with a strong force, to complete the work. When the work was begun four years ago, it was intended to spread it out over a period of twelve years, so that the tax upon the State Treasury would not be burdensome; but if the undertaking is to be carried through to a finish in six years, the appropriations must be doubled, and, according to Professor White, should be, *per annum*, as follows:

For co-operation with the U. S. Geological Survey in the preparation of a complete topographical map of the State . . . . .	\$20,000
For salaries of the State Geologist and three assistants . .	4,900
For salary of Chief Draughtsman and Topographer and two assistant topographers . . . . .	2,500
For salary of Chief Chemist . . . . .	300
For salary of Assistant Chemist . . . . .	600
For salary of Chief Clerk . . . . .	1,200
For salary of Assistant Clerk . . . . .	500
For Engraving, Printing and Binding . . . . .	5,000
For field, office, traveling and incidental expenses . . . . .	5,000
Total . . . . .	\$40,000

I earnestly hope that this subject may not be lost sight of in the multiplicity of the business of your present session. Above everything else, we should have a correct Geological Survey,



clearly setting forth our natural resources, which many of us believe cannot be surpassed by any other section of the globe.

### THE PAN-AMERICAN EXPOSITION.

There will be held at Buffalo, in the State of New York, the present year, an Exposition of the industries and products of North, Central and South America. This great Exposition will open its doors to visitors May 1, next, and will remain open until October 31, 1901. The scope of the enterprise is, perhaps, not so broad as was that of the Columbus Exposition at Chicago, a few years ago, but the intention of the management is to make it, in all respects, as large, and, in some features, even larger. About a year ago, at the request of the Director General, I appointed a Board of six Commissioners to represent West Virginia's interests and industries at this forthcoming Exposition. The Commissioners met and organized several months ago, but could do but little for lack of funds.

In order that the great industries of our State might be properly presented at this Exposition, after consultation with the Board of Commissioners, it was deemed impossible to wait until the assembling of your Honorable Body, when an appropriation could be asked for to meet the necessary expenses involved in preparing exhibits, and after a conference with a number of our leading citizens of both of the prominent political parties, I decided to borrow \$10,000, for the use of the Commission, and they promptly begun active work in arranging a proper exhibit of our resources at the Exposition. A proper State building has been let to contract, and an agent employed to collect and arrange exhibits, so that West Virginia will not be behind her sister States at this great show of the New World's products.

The Commission is composed of wise, capable and conservative business men, who have entered upon their duties with unparal-leled vigor, and if I mistake not, it will never be said of them that they did not do their full duty.

Many of the States have already set apart large sums of money, in order that their industries may be fully represented at the Exposition. I, however, do not favor an unnecessarily large appropriation for this purpose, and I am quite confident that our State Commissioners will be conservative and reasonable in their demands; but I do ask that you will make an appropriation sufficiently large, to enable them to fully satisfy all of the people who may attend the Exposition, that West Virginia is in the front rank in natural resources and advantages.

### AMENDMENTS TO CORPORATION LAWS, AND STATE REVENUE.

I earnestly direct the attention of the Legislature to the im-

portance of certain amendments to the corporation laws of the State. Many minor amendments to make the laws harmonious and more explicit are needed, but these I shall not discuss. The principal changes I recommend are, first, that the limitation be taken off as to the amount of land corporations may hold. This limitation comes down from the State of Virginia, and in earlier years may have been necessary, but it is no longer so. There is now no danger that corporations may unduly infringe upon the land of the State. The second proposition I desire to submit is that the law limiting the capital stock of corporations, except railroad and internal improvement companies, be removed. A bill passed the Senate of the last session of the Legislature for this purpose among others, but was defeated in the House, for the reason, as I understand, that it would promote or facilitate the promotion of what are known as Trusts. I do not think this objection obtains. In amending the corporation law, a proper provision could be inserted for the control or dissolution of Trusts. Whether a Corporation is a Trust or not is not to be judged by the amount of its capital stock. Indeed a Trust is as much likely to be formed out of a number of small corporations as to be embodied in one of large capital. This is an age of large enterprises, requiring large capital, and many good corporations have been compelled to turn away from the juster and more liberal laws of this State to other States, because of this limitation as to the amount of capital stock. Several corporations which were formed in this State have been compelled to withdraw from the State, to be reincorporated elsewhere because their business demands a larger capital stock than was allowed by our laws. I would not suggest any provision that would facilitate the formation of Trusts, but, as I have stated before, whether a Corporation is a Trust or not is not to be judged by the amount of its capital stock. The revenues of this State from the license tax on corporations should be much larger than it is. New Jersey receives from this source, more than \$3,000,000,000, a year, and is thereby enabled to forego any State tax on land and personal property.

In addition to the amendments I have suggested, there should be another which would increase the amount of license tax on corporations having a certain amount of capital stock, and this tax should be graduated in proportion to the amount of capital stock actually paid in. Our corporations now are divided into two classes as concerns the amount of annual license tax paid to the State, and are popularly called "foreign" and "domestic" corporations. A domestic corporation is one having its principal office or place of business within the State, and it being presumed that such corporation will have its property or at least its personal property located in the State to be taxed by the State for State, county and district taxes, it is charged but ten dollars

per year license tax. A foreign corporation is one having its principal office, or place of business, without the State, and it being presumed that such corporation will have no property within the State to be taxed as such, it is required to pay \$50 a year license tax. The law as to what is a foreign corporation and what is a domestic one needs to be amended, as many corporations have been chartered within this State as domestic corporations; and are paying but ten dollars a year license tax, that in fact are foreign corporations and should pay fifty dollars. Under the present administration, this practice has been stopped as far as possible, but the officers have had to do so by rather arbitrary means, and on the broad ground that it was their duty to protect the State. I see no reason why with proper amendments to our laws, West Virginia should not receive at least a million dollars a year from the license tax on corporations, and if this result is accomplished, the state tax on the property of the citizens of the State could be largely reduced, and in course of time entirely abolished. I sincerely ask that this matter receive your careful and earnest consideration.

In this connection, I desire to call your particular attention to the urgent necessity of increasing the revenues of the State. We have started out to construct many needed improvements which are demanded for a more liberal care of our helpless and unfortunate citizens. Mercy and kindness require this at your hands. Our educational work, along all lines, is growing. Greater appropriations, therefore, seem imperative. The many new public buildings already begun, should be vigorously pressed to speedy completion. The present income of the State is wholly insufficient to carry these much needed improvements forward, and one of three things must necessarily be done by the Legislature: 1. The rate of taxation must be increased; 2. Present public improvements must be hampered and prolonged; 3. The income from licenses on corporations, chartered by the State, must be increased, as I have already shown can and should be done; and I may add a fourth alternative, viz: A special assessment for building purposes, which has been done more than once in the history of the State.

I am unalterably opposed to the increase of the rate of taxation; to the hampering of the work already so well and vigorously begun by preceding Legislatures; to anything even squinting of special assessments; but I am earnestly in favor of so revising our corporation laws as to give us a largely increased revenue, without perceptibly burdening any particular class of taxpayers, and, in fact, without increasing the taxes of the mass of our people at all.

The question of State revenues, therefore, is the all important subject with which you will be called upon to deal at your present session. How to continue the work of State development,



without overreaching the income of the State, and without burdening our tax-payers unjustly, and without involving the State with debt—which cannot be done under our Constitution—is a grave problem, and deserves your most thoughtful consideration.

### REDISTRICTING THE STATE.

One of the important missions you will necessarily be required to perform, is to re-district the State for members of your own body, and perhaps for Members of Congress also, as it is more than probable that West Virginia, under the new apportionment, will be entitled to an additional member of the National House of Representatives. Ten years ago, when the State was re-districted, the apportionment was so unjust, not to say unconstitutional, as to be almost universally condemned by all well meaning people. In view of this fact, I recommend and urge that these apportionments be made, not with a view of any political advantage which may arise therefrom, but wholly along lines of fairness and justice to the people in all of the counties and districts of the entire State. This, I am confident, you will be pleased to do in accordance with the oaths you have all taken to carry out the wishes of the voters who honored you with the exalted positions which you now hold, of making the laws for all classes, creeds and political parties of the State of West Virginia, without fear or favor to any individual party or class.

### CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS.

While I do not desire to assume the responsibility of recommending the call of a Convention to frame a new Constitution, yet, at the same time, it is evident to all well informed West Virginians that our present Constitution is inadequate, in many respects, to meet existing conditions, and needs, to say the least, many radical changes. Whether it is better to call a Constitutional Convention, or to submit individual amendments to the people, I leave to your thoughtful consideration. It is probable that a deliberative body of district representatives may be provided, to be, say, half as large as our Legislative assembly, which will give all sections and classes proper representation, and thus be easier controlled and save to the tax payers a large sum of money. Your own good judgment shall be mine upon this very important subject.

### COMPULSORY EDUCATION.

I cannot lay down my official trust without insisting upon the passage of a more practical and effective compulsory educational law by the Legislature of West Virginia. Notwithstanding

the fact that we have a superior system of public schools in every county in the State, the number of boys and girls that do not attend them is simply appalling. If parents persist in allowing their children to grow up in ignorance, when free school houses stand almost within the shadow of their homes, then, in my candid opinion, they ought to be compelled to send their children to school and be summarily punished for a failure so to do. The State of West Virginia, in these enlightened times, cannot afford to allow a very large part of her citizens to grow up in ignorance, and thus swell the ranks of the criminal classes, and in this way become a burden upon the people at large.

The last session of your Honorable Body recognized this existing evil, and attempted to remedy it; but it has, so far, proved ineffectual. Section 10a of Chapter 45 of the Code of 1899, is a step forward in accomplishing important results. If this law were enforced, nothing more would be necessary. But somehow, no one seemingly has busied himself to carry out its provisions. To make it effective, some one must be clothed with authority to act. The streets are thronged with children who should be in attendance upon the public schools. No one now in authority seems to care for the enforcement of this important statute. What, then, can be done? One remedy lies, as I have suggested, under the head of "Employment of Child Labor," in this Message, is in making it a penal offence for contractors of labor to employ young children in their respective establishments. This provision ought to be enacted and enforced; and, then, it seems to me, that the officers whose duty it is to enforce our laws, will see to it that the multitude of children whose parents do not send them to the public schools, in order that they may not be allowed to grow up in ignorance, when the State beneficently provides for their education, without money and without price. I would also suggest another amendment to the section above referred to, making it the duty of all county superintendents of schools, all boards of education, and all school trustees and teachers to report any and all persons for arrest, who do not strictly comply with the provisions of this statute, except in cases where children are physically unable to attend school, and this should be established by physicians' certificates, under oath. In my humble judgment, this matter is of the very gravest importance, and deserves most earnest consideration at your hands.

#### ELECTION FRAUDS.

The use of money at elections in this State has in recent years grown to such proportions as to call for most serious consideration. Corruption at the ballot box, the very fountain head of all free institutions, is one of the greatest dangers to which our State can be exposed. The crime of bribery is one which ex-

perience has shown to be most difficult to detect and punish. Notwithstanding the earnest efforts made by careful legislators in other States, no apparent satisfactory remedy for the unlawful use of money at elections has been devised.

The present law ought to be amended so as to include every species of bribery.

But it must be remembered that no law, however comprehensive, or stringent in its provisions, is self-executing, and that no enactment against bribery and corruption of voters, can be made entirely effective, until public sentiment co-operates with the judiciary in its enforcement.

I suggest and urge that our present election law be amended, at fewest, in three important particulars: 1. After the election officers have declared the result at each precinct, the ballots should be immediately destroyed, in order to prevent post-election frauds. 2. Our present law, which makes the one who buys and the one who sells a vote, equally guilty, should be amended so as to affix a severe penalty only upon the seller, and not upon the buyer. In this way collusion will be entirely shut off, and the voter who barter his highest right as an American citizen, can be convicted of the crime; and, 3. Every candidate for a public office, either in a primary or at a general election, should be required to submit an expense account under oath, showing the amount of money expended by himself personally, or through any agent or friend for election purposes, and making it a felony for him to submit a false or evasive statement. It seems to me that if these requirements are made, bribery at elections may be measurably lessened, if not entirely eradicated. That something must be done is apparent to all, and I earnestly urge that no one will shirk responsibility upon this very serious and important question. The time has arrived for heroic action, and I sincerely trust that it will be fearlessly undertaken.

#### ADVISORY BOARD OF PARDONS.

One of the wisest and most beneficial acts of the last session of the Legislature was the creation of an Advisory Board of Pardons. The necessity for the establishment of this Board was two-fold: 1. The State had become too large for the continuance of a "one-man power" in handling applications for pardons; and, 2, it was too great a burden upon the Chief Executive to discharge this important duty with proper care and deliberation.

The two years of faithful and efficient service of this State Board, has been most satisfactory. Both of the members of the Board were selected because of their eminent fitness for careful judicial work. They have been painstaking and courageous in all of their acts. They gave ample hearings to the attorneys of all prisoners applying for pardons, and scrutinized the testi-



mony with as much carefulness, as if they were sitting as judges in the original trials of the cases. This sort of work was expected of them when they were appointed, and at no time have they failed to perform their full duties.

The law governing this Board, however, should be materially amended. I would recommend (1) that they have authority to summon and compel the attendance of witnesses; (2) that they should be paid at least \$10 per day for the time deemed necessary for a proper discharge of their duties, which would be but a small compensation for lawyers of their standing in the profession; (3) that they be allowed a clerk with proper salary, especially equipped to keep and maintain the records of the Board, which should be a court of record; (4) that the members of the Board and the clerk thereof be authorized to administer oaths to all persons whose testimony is deemed necessary to be taken in cases that are being heard, and that they be empowered to commit all such witnesses for contempt as may prove obstreperous, recusant, or recalcitrant, as in other courts of record; (5) that they be allowed a bailiff or tipstaff, whose duty it shall be to maintain proper order and decorum while the Board is in session, and also to serve their proper and necessary processes; (6) they should hold bi-monthly sessions and be allowed proper time to look carefully into every meritorious case that is regularly presented for their consideration; and (7) the members of the Board should be appointed by the Governor for the term of two years, but it should be so arranged that one member of the Board shall, if it is deemed necessary to make a change, retire each year. In this way one of the members will always possess one year's experience in office.

All of these points are worthy of your consideration, and I am sure it will be your pleasure to weigh them carefully.

### THE IRREDUCIBLE SCHOOL FUND.

I again call your attention to the provision of our State Constitution (Sec. 4, Art. XII.) relative to what is termed the "Irreducible School Fund." In my last message, I submitted, in accordance with my best judgment, several important reasons why we, as a State, should cease to pile up an educational fund for the benefit of the children of coming generations. I am still of opinion that the course we are now pursuing, in this respect, is unwise, unjust and impolitic. Why the present generation should provide an educational fund for subsequent generations, is something entirely beyond my comprehension. We should use our utmost endeavors to contribute proper educations to our own children, at public expense, and allow the future to take care of itself.

As a matter of course, this vast fund cannot be touched, ex-

cept by an amendment to the Constitution. It is, however, an easy matter for the Legislature, to submit to the people an amendment to the Constitution, allowing some sort of immediate use of this large sum of money, which is annually growing larger by its own accretions, and is doing no one any apparent good. It has always impressed my mind that the proper thing to do is to either distribute this fund in annual installments among the several public schools of the State, and thus increase the school period one or more months each year, or set it apart as a permanent endowment fund of the State University, allowing only the interest thereon to be used. At any event, some action should be taken thereon, which will allow the use of this fund in a way that it will avail something to the people in the times in which we are now living.

I desire to call your attention to a full discussion of this subject by the State Treasurer, in his report of the present year. It embraces both the law and facts bearing upon the question, and is worthy of your careful consideration.

#### PROSECUTING ATTORNEYS.

Without intending to reflect upon any particular Prosecuting Attorney, I deem it my duty, under my oath of office, to recommend a change of our statute relative to these officers. The first step which should be taken is to make Prosecuting Attorneys, like the Sheriffs, ineligible to succeed themselves. This will result in the faithful discharge of their duties in collecting fines due the State, and not stop with the collection of the officers' fees only, which is the common custom. This charge, however, does not apply to all Prosecuting Attorneys, but it applies, I think, to the most of them. It will also prevent these officers from laying pipe to succeed themselves, and will certainly lessen the issuing of "nollies," especially in revenue cases. A Prosecuting Attorney, when he knows he cannot succeed himself in the same office, will be more vigilant in the discharge of his duties, and will undoubtedly be more useful to the State in enforcing its laws. Section 16 of Chapter 138 of the Code, in my judgment, should be amended so as to provide for the payment of fines, before the Prosecuting Attorney is entitled to receive his fees. If these provisions are carried out, the treasury of the State will be materially enlarged every year.

The Constitution provides a term of four years for Prosecuting Attorneys, and unlike the provision relating to Sheriffs, is silent as to the matter of re-election. I cannot believe that the charge of unconstitutionality could be maintained, if the Legislature, in its wisdom, should deem it proper to limit Prosecuting Attorneys to one term.

## POLITICAL CONVENTIONS AND THE STATE JUDICIARY.

I am now more than ever convinced that all State Judges should be selected at times and places separate and apart from Conventions called to nominate or select candidates for all other classes of officers. This will insure greater carefulness in the selection of members of the Judiciary, and cannot fail to redound to the advantage of the people generally. I therefore suggest the enactment of a law requiring all political parties to comply with this proposition.

## LEGISLATIVE LOBBYISTS.

The Legislative bodies of practically all of the States are afflicted with a class of men, who make lobbying for the passage of measures a regular business. Such conduct, to say the least, in most cases, is reprehensible and ought to be frowned upon by all well meaning people. It is entirely proper that legislative measures for the public weal, should be looked after; and it is also proper that all good citizens should use their best endeavors to prevent the enactment, by any sort of chicanery, of deleterious measures. I refer only to that class of persons who prepare Bills, and manage to have them offered by some one, with a view of levying black-mail upon interested parties, to prevent the enactment of the same after they have been submitted. Such things have been done in this State; and is becoming all too common in many sister States, and it ought to be inhibited by all well meaning people, in and outside of legislative bodies.

You enter together upon the responsible and honorable duties which have been entrusted to your hands by the people of West Virginia, and I have every reason to believe that you will prove yourselves not unworthy of their confidence. May whatever legislation that is enacted be for the common good of all. The humblest and the most powerful petitioner alike should be required to depend wholly upon the justness of his cause in every matter submitted for your consideration. No unworthy influence, born of selfishness or greed, in whatsoever specious guise, should be allowed to approach your halls of legislation. Private interests, I need only intimate, should be held ever subordinate to the public welfare. I am sure you will see to it that reason shall prevail over passion and prejudice, and the voice of the sophist or the demagogue, if such should be raised, shall be powerless to mislead.

In these days, when Legislatures are subjected to criticism and disparagement, not always without cause, may West Virginia present the spectacle of a Legislature vigilant, fearless and wise, which shall be truly representative of the best thought and



highest aspiration of an intelligent, patriotic and progressive people. So shall we be instruments to perpetuate the honor and fame of the Commonwealth, and to transmit unimpaired the heritage we have received from our fathers.

#### STATE FLAG AND FLOWER.

The time has arrived, it seems to me, when West Virginia, should, by an act of its Legislature, adopt both a Flag and a Flower, as its proper State emblems. Other and older States have done both, and we should, I think, fall into line.

Some months ago, my Private Secretary, General E. L. Boggs, prepared a design for a State Flag, which attracted particular attention at a National Charity Bazar, recently held in New York City, for the benefit of the sufferers of the Galveston flood. It consists of the Stars and Stripes, with the State Seal in the centre of the flag. I had a photograph of it taken, which will be presented for your consideration.

For a State Flower, I know none more beautiful, and none more common in West Virginia, than the Rhododendron. It is found along almost every vale and hillside, and is universally admired both for its beauty and fragrance.

I therefore recommend the adoption of the flag and flower above described, and trust it will be your pleasure to ratify the same.

#### GAME AND FISH WARDEN.

In 1897 the Legislature took the first practicable step for the preservation of Game and Fish. The natural adaptation of West Virginia for game and fish is not excelled by any of the eastern States. New York appropriates from \$60,000 to \$75,000 annually for the protection and propagation of game and fish, while Pennsylvania, Ohio and Michigan nearly as much. West Virginia spends almost nothing.

The Legislature of 1899 even failed to appropriate enough to pay the mileage and expenses of Warden E. F. Smith spent in enforcing the Act. of 1897.

The Act of 1897 is an excellent one; but for a proper execution thereof the office of Game and Fish Warden should be made a salaried one, with actual traveling expenses, with power to deputize in each county. The pay of the deputies should come from convictions secured by them and their jurisdiction should be extended only to their respective counties. With a proper system of verified reports, this would afford ample machinery for the execution of these valuable laws.

#### COMPILATION OF OUR PUBLIC DOCUMENTS.

I find our public records and documents in the archives of the

State in a very incomplete and unsatisfactory condition. While the Governors of recent years, apparently took proper precautions to arrange and publish, in enduring forms, the public records of the State, yet the early Governors did not seem to be impressed with the importance of arranging and publishing, in enduring form, the important records of their respective administrations.

I can find no official records relating to the "Restored Government of Virginia." I have also made diligent effort to secure the journals of the Legislatures from 1861 to 1864, and have not been able to find them. I find more or less irregularities in the preservation of these records, until the administration of Governor Fleming, when, it seemed, that a new system of preserving State records was inaugurated. While we have, in good shape, the laws and ordinances of the Restored Government of Virginia, and Governor F. H. Pierpont, yet the documents and journals, during that period, cannot be found, unless, perhaps, the originals, are in existence, and I hope they are; but it is a big undertaking to find them, and one would hardly know where to begin to look for them.

Under the later Governors of the State, it has been the custom to bind all messages, reports, documents and papers into volumes, in order that they might be properly preserved; but in former years, they were bound separately and apart from the journals, and cannot now be found. I find no Inaugural Address of any Governor of the State printed in any bound volume of the State's doings, not even my own. This, of course, was an oversight. These documents are a part of the important history of the State, and yet they have not been preserved in enduring form. I, myself, am guilty of neglect of duty in not seeing to it that this "reform" was started with my own administration. I also find in the two volumes, which are presumed to contain a full exhibit of my administration for the first two years, and yet I find, in looking these volumes carefully over, that the reports of the following State Institutions, which were made to me and were duly printed, were not bound in these two volumes: The Deaf, Dumb and Blind Institution, the West Virginia Colored Institute, the State Normal Schools, the West Virginia University, the Agricultural Department of the State, the State Penitentiary, the State Board of Dentistry, Fishery and Game Warden, and State Board of Pharmacy.

While it may be true, and I think it is, that a few of these State Boards did not make reports to me, as the law requires, yet I am sure some of them did submit carefully prepared reports, and yet, for some unknown reason, they were not bound with the other reports as a part of the enduring records of my administration. Some one is guilty of culpable neglect and I, of

course, must assume my share of responsibility. All I can do now is to see that for the remainder of my administration, these neglects shall not again occur.

It, therefore, seems that all of our State Executives, myself among the number, have been direlict in duty in seeing that these public records should be properly preserved. It is painfully evident that our public records are woefully incomplete, and some action should be taken by your honorable body, without unnecessary delay, to hunt out and print, in enduring form, all of these missing records in order that the State's archives may be perfected and completed. I beg, in view of these unfortunate conditions, to suggest that a Historical Commission be designated by your Honorable Body to perform, at least, two important duties: 1. To have all of the public records, papers and documents, from 1861 to the present, or at least to a point to where the records are found complete, and a supply sufficient to meet all reasonable demands, collected, edited and classified, and printed in a series. 2. To devise and adopt a systematic plan for the publication and preservation of all of our State archives in the future.

#### WEST VIRGINIA CHILDREN'S HOME SOCIETY.

The last session of your Honorable Body enacted a law (House Bill No. 68), for the purpose of ameliorating the condition of homeless and indigent children, who are or may be confined in the infirmaries of the State. The passage of this law was instigated mainly by the West Virginia Children's Home Society. This society is based upon the common sense principle of finding homes for children, instead of massing them together in Children's Homes, and allowing them to remain practically uncared for in county poor-houses. The present statute is not broad enough to meet the wants of this and other similar societies. I therefore suggest that a provision be added, which will allow county courts or boards of commissioners to expend a sum, not exceeding \$50, in each case, to pay the expenses of any Benevolent Society that will agree to find good and proper homes for such indigent children.

#### MILITIA AND HOME GUARD CLAIMS.

During the Civil War, it became necessary to call into active service certain companies of Militia and Home Guards, for the protection of the lives and property of loyal citizens. This condition prevailed for the first two years of the war, and in some localities, during the whole time of the great struggle for the Union and Constitutional liberty. Some of these troops did



heroic service for the State and Nation, and were a valuable auxiliary to the Union Army. In many instances they were called upon, under circumstances unavoidable, to endure great hardships and privations. As a general thing, none of these troops were prepared to take the field regularly; they were, however, given guns, cartridge boxes and cartridges, but no blankets, overcoats or rubber coverings, such as were furnished to the regular volunteers, and no tents were issued to them; and yet, they were ordered suddenly and precipitately to distant parts of the State from their places of rendezvous, to assist the Union Army, when hard pressed, and sometimes they were water bound for weeks, exposed to inclement weather, at which times much suffering was endured. We are told that many organizations as these received no pay whatever for their services during those trying times.

Many of these brave and heroic West Virginians, were very poor and unable to serve their country without pay, and now, after the lapse of more than three decades, with many of them decrepid and aged, their case is before the Representatives of the State, asking for justice to be meted out to them. Most of these men, after rendering this service, subsequently entered the regular volunteer service as soldiers, serving to the end of the struggle. Their claim ought at least to be fairly adjudicated.

I will add further that the United States Congress has provided that all such claims which may be paid by any State, for services in suppressing the rebellion, will be re-imbursed by the General Government.

I recommend, therefore, that a Board be authorized, whose duty it shall be to diligently inquire into this matter, and in order that every honest claimant may be facilitated in proving his claim. It is suggested that provision be made for said Board to sit in each Congressional District of the State, in order that claimants may have opportunity to prove their accounts with as small expense to such claimants as possible. Such law should be framed with a view of finding and honestly adjudicating every such case in the State, so that just payment may be made.

#### WEST VIRGINIA HISTORICAL AND ANTIQUARIAN SOCIETY.

The West Virginia Historical and Antiquarian Society is in a prosperous and promising condition; it is adding steadily to its library and museum, both of which are highly appreciated and largely visited by the public.

In order to more fully carry out the purposes of the Society, it has decided to publish a Historical Magazine in which to gather up and preserve the past and current history of the State;

the first number of this magazine will be issued and laid on the desks of the members early in the session to give them an idea of the intent and scope of the work intended.

The society has fully vested in the State all its right and title to its books, general collection and whatever it has.

The Board of Public Works has assigned to the Society one floor in the new Annex building, which will give it room for a much better display of what it has and allow for expansion.

The Society has accomplished much under difficulties and with very small State aid, compared to what other States have done and are doing for their Historical Societies.

Our Society has now become one of the valuable educational institutions of the State, and I recommend that you grant it a liberal appropriation to carry on its work; say \$5,000 for the two years.

#### BERKELEY SPRINGS PROPERTY.

The State owns a valuable property at Berkeley Springs in the county of Morgan, and for some cause it has never been properly developed. Two years ago a lengthy lease was granted by special act of the Legislature to Dr. Chancellor, of Baltimore, who under the provisions thereof was required to construct a commodious hotel upon the springs property. He, however, did not erect the hotel, and the property is wholly inoperative for want of hotel accommodations. The Board of Directors has secured another lessee, and will ask your Honorable Body to ratify the same during your present session. The water of these wonderful springs can never be utilized until a large and properly constructed hotel is erected at the springs on the property owned by the State, and I trust a contract can be so framed as to bind and compel the party or parties to whom it may be leased, to construct a building that will meet the demands of the public.

The present Board of Directors is too large and unwieldy, and in my opinion, is not properly constructed. I recommend therefore that a bi-partisan Board be provided for, composed of five members only—one from each Congressional District and one at large, and that they be paid the same compensation as other State Boards. Unless this is done, I cannot believe that this property will ever be made to yield any revenue to the State.

#### SEPARATE APARTMENTS IN COUNTY JAILS.

In most, if not all of the county jails of the State, no provision is made to separate the boy criminals from older and more confirmed violators of law. That such separation should, in all cases, be made cannot be doubted. And provisions should also

be made by every county for a sufficiency of apartments in the county jail to keep insane persons temporarily confined, separate and apart from those confined for crimes. I know of no way to bring these measures about, except by the passage of a general law requiring it to be done, and to provide a penalty for its non-enforcement; and I therefore recommend that such law be passed.

### THE NEW ARMED CRUISER "WEST VIRGINIA."

The United States Government is now engaged in building and equipping several new Armed Cruisers, and among the number is one to be christened "West Virginia." This, I regard, a distinguished honor to our State, as only six of these vessels are now building. I would suggest that a committee of your Honorable Body be appointed to confer with the Honorable Secretary of the Navy, to inquire what, if anything, is expected of our State relative to this particular ship. That some recognition of the matter should be taken, goes without saying, and I trust that, in the hurry of business, it will not be overlooked.

### A STATE CIRCULATING LIBRARY.

In my last Bi-ennial Message, I called attention to the importance and need of the practical and popular method of education through what is known as a "State Circulating Library."

In these times of improved educational methods, an important auxiliary to our public schools is the free public library. Many of our sister States have enacted laws which place good books, of all kinds, at the disposal of the people generally, in the rural sections, as well as in the cities and towns. Wherever tried these traveling libraries have proven popular as well as useful. The growing popularity and recognized merit of the system, justify me in again calling your attention to the subject. It has been found that these libraries not only encourage a desire on the part of the people to read and study, but they encourage the establishment of literary clubs among farmers, business men and young men and women generally in all of the varied walks of life. That the general weal will be greatly aided by such a library system, I do not think any one will question or doubt.

### THE GENERAL LEWIS MONUMENT.

In 1875 the sum of \$3,500, was appropriated by the Legislature to erect a monument at Point Pleasant, to commemorate the battle which was fought, in 1774, between the Americans, under the command of General Andrew Lewis, and the Indians. This fund



was placed at interest; and in 1897, the Legislature passed a joint resolution, which directed the Governor to appoint a commission of three, whose duty it shall be to proceed to construct the monument as was intended by the Act of 1875. Whereupon, I named as said Commissioners Judges J. W. English and F. A. Guthrie, and Dr. Andrew R. Barbee. Two years ago, the Commissioners reported to me that owing to the high price demanded by the owners of the land, where the monument should be located, it was impossible to proceed with the erection of the monument, and accordingly nothing was done.

The Commissioners have not submitted to me a written report this year, but one of the members of the Commission verbally informed me that the fund now amounts to about \$11,000, and that some \$10,000 of it is on deposit in a Point Pleasant bank, and is not drawing interest. The remainder of the fund is in the hands of a citizen of Mason county, is bearing interest, and can be collected whenever it is needed. It is the opinion of the member of the Commission with whom I conferred, that if your Honorable Body will make an additional appropriation sufficiently large to purchase a lot of ground—say \$1,000 to \$1,500, the Commissioners can, with the money now on hand, proceed to erect a monument commensurate with the magnitude of the battle, and with the dignity of the State as well.

In order that the work may go on to an early completion, and a creditable monument may be constructed, I recommend the additional appropriation requested by the Commissioners.

### A STATE PRINTING ESTABLISHMENT.

As a natural sequence of the development and growth of the State, the time, perhaps, has arrived for the State itself to undertake, at least, to endeavor to equip itself with a printing plant in which to do its own printing. The State Auditor will very soon occupy rooms in the Capitol Annex, and the large, airy and well lighted rooms in the Capitol building, now occupied by him will be vacated. These rooms are especially suited for a State Printing Office. If the State should undertake to do its own work, no one now engaged in the printing business would necessarily be injured thereby; a public printer would have to be appointed by the Governor, who would be required to purchase raw materials by competitive bids, and employ competent printers to do the printing and binding under his directions. In this way, the rights of no one would be necessarily infringed upon, and the State would undoubtedly secure a better class of work, and at less prices than are now paid. One or more of the States have tried the experiment, and, I am informed, that it has proven even more than satisfactory.

## TEACHERS FOR COUNTY POOR HOUSES.

It is strange but true, that but few, if any, of the counties of the State, provides teachers for the indigent children who, of necessity, must be kept in the county poor-houses. In a civilized, Christian land, this should not be allowed. Children should not be permitted to grow up in ignorance in our midst, even if their parents are too poor to support them, and thus require the different counties to provide for them in alms houses.

I therefore recommend the enactment of a law, which will require every County Court, or Board of County Commissioners, to provide a teacher for every poor-house in the State, whose duty it shall be to teach the children confined therein, the same number of hours per week as are required in the public schools of the respective counties.

## ENLARGEMENT OF GOVERNOR'S MANSION.

The Governor's Mansion is inadequate for the needs of any Executive, however small his family may be. Two years ago I employed a competent architect to prepare a plan of an addition to the building, which he did, together with specifications and the probable cost of the improvements. I submitted the matter to the Legislature two years ago, and asked an appropriation of \$2,000.00 for that purpose. The appropriation, however, was not made, and consequently the work was not done.

I have conferred with Governor-elect White, relative to this matter, and it is only proper for me to state, that there is an insufficiency of room in the Mansion for him to properly care for his family. I therefore earnestly request that an appropriation of \$2,000.00 be set apart for this particular purpose. The plans and specifications may be found at my office. The expenditure of the amount of money suggested, will increase the value of the property more than it will cost to carry it into effect.

## ELECTRIC LIGHT PLANT.

The last session of the Legislature appropriated \$8,000.00 to construct an electric light plant for the Capitol building and grounds. It has been in operation for perhaps a year, and has been satisfactory to all of the officers and clerks in the building. We have found, however, that one dynamo is insufficient, and, therefore, another of equal voltage should be added, and I request that a committee be appointed to investigate and report as to the advisability of carrying out this suggestion, and the cost thereof.

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COLORED DEAF AND BLIND CHILDREN.

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It is rather remarkable that West Virginia has made no provision for the education of the colored deaf and blind within its limits. The Board of Directors of our Deaf and Blind Institution, in order to provide for several colored children, afflicted with deafness and blindness, incurred a considerable debt in a Baltimore School that was prepared to receive that class of pupils. I recommend the prompt payment of this indebtedness; and I also ask that proper provisions be made for this class of unfortunate West Virginia children for the future.

## STATE BOARD OF HEALTH.

This State Board has been burdened with work the past two years, mainly on account of small-pox, which has prevailed to a greater or less extent, in almost every section of West Virginia. The State Board of Health, however, met the plague heroically, and was of material benefit to the county and city Boards of Health throughout the State. Small-pox is still prevalent in a number of counties, but is less dreaded by the masses than in former years. Corraling the patients and vaccination are the two principal remedies. The masses are careless about vaccination, and many of them are averse to it.

County Courts frequently fail to render proper assistance in promptly stamping out epidemics, but I presume it is impractical to enact a law that will meet such cases. A few of our counties, notably Fayette, have taken proper steps to meet emergencies of this character. The County Court of Fayette constructed a pest-house and a house of detention. All suspects are sent to the house of detention, and small-pox patients, as a matter of course, are shipped directly to the pest-house. If all of the counties would take this course, the pest could be easily controlled.

The report of the State Board of Health causes many subjects of interest, and to it, I respectfully refer you for complete details.

I respectfully suggest the importance of giving more attention by city, county and State Boards of Health to bacteriological methods of study and practice. These methods, it appears to my mind as a layman, are essential to correct conclusions relative to contagious diseases. In the examination of drinking water, from which many diseases arise, I should think that chemistry and bacteriology would so supplement each other as to make their joint verdict invariably reliable. My information on matters of this sort, lead me to the conclusion, looking at it purely from



the standpoint of a layman, that in the diagnosis of infectious diseases, bacteriological methods should be able to remove all doubts, and should give to practicing, physical and sanitary officers, firm ground upon which to stand.

The high ground taken by our State Board of Health relative to a fixed standard for physicians to pass before they are allowed to enter upon the practice of medicine in West Virginia, should be universally approved. It is now next to impossible for a charlatan or mountebank to get license to prescribe medicine for our people. This is right, and I hope the standard will be raised, instead of lowered. There is no subject which I commend to your more earnest consideration than that of the public health. Your careful attention, therefore, is called to the bi-ennial report of the Board.

### MINERS' HOSPITALS.

The session of the Legislature two years ago, appropriated \$15,000.00 each for the erection of three Miners' Hospitals at different points in West Va. These Hospitals were located respectively at Welch, McDowell county, McKendree, Fayette county, and Fairmont, Marion county. Plans and specifications prepared by competent architects, were procured, and contracts were awarded for their construction under competitive bids. All three of them are nearly completed. One of them, I am informed, will be ready for opening and occupancy, within four or five weeks. These Hospitals are models of architecture, and will, I am confident, be properly conducted, and will prove a blessing, especially to the coal miners and railroad employees, who are very numerous in our State. The Boards of Directors of each of them, are composed of substantial business men, who have reported all of their operations, and to these reports I most respectfully refer you, as I am sure you will be interested in reading what they have set out in detail.

### CRIMINAL LIBEL AND SLANDER.

In my first message to the Legislature, I called attention to the necessity of the enactment of a statute that would protect citizens, and especially those in office, from the attacks of the villainous, irresponsible, worthless character assassin. More and more I see the absolute necessity of the enactment of such a law. I would not presume, in any way, to abridge the right of free speech and a free press, but I would place about all of our citizens a protection, in the shape of a statute, which will define as a crime, any false or malicious attack. either by speech

or publication, upon any one, whether he is in or out of office. We have well defined laws which protect our personal and property rights, but nothing but the Common law, to protect our characters and reputations from the irresponsible villain, who has no property out of which to procure damages, from saying or publishing whatever his malicious nature may inspire. Let speech be free, and let the press remain free, but by a criminal statute, let the mouth and the pen of the assassin of the character of an upright man or woman be stilled. I sincerely hope that this legislative body will have the courage to meet this issue squarely.

### STATE INSURANCE.

In May, 1898, I called the attention of the Board of Public Works to the importance of a general overhauling of the insurance on the public buildings and their contents belonging to the State, and suggested the employment of an expert insurance man to visit all of the public buildings, and report generally thereon. The Board concurred in my suggestion, and Mr. Charles F. Littlepage, whom I knew possessed special qualifications for that sort of work, was employed at a salary of \$10 per day and expenses. He entered upon the undertaking May 23, 1898, under the impression that he could complete the work in 45 days. His instructions were to ascertain the cost of construction of each particular building; the value of the furniture therein; the amount of insurance on each building and contents; the forms of all of the policies; the amount that could be recovered on each piece of property, in case of fire; the extent of damage that would follow a supposed total loss by fire; the rates that were being paid on each and all of the buildings; whether any or all of the buildings were under or overinsured; and especially to ascertain whether the policies were concurrent. In short, he was instructed to report in detail upon any and all matters connected with the insurance of the State's property, and report thereon.

Mr. Littlepage began his work May 23, 1898, and very soon thereafter learned that, because the specifications and plans which covered the construction of practically all of the State buildings could not be found, it was therefore necessary for him to prepare estimates of the cost of each particular building, before he could determine the amount of insurance that should be placed upon any of them. This necessarily required a vast amount of time, experience and patience. He, however, continued his labors until he was able to submit a report to the Board of Public Works, covering every possible detail, which could arise in adjusting a loss, in case any or all of the State build-

ings were destroyed by fire. These details are voluminous, but are so arranged that the interests of the State cannot be over-ridden in adjusting any loss which may occur in the future.

The time which was given to this work, Mr. Littlepage informs me, instead of 45 days, as it was at first supposed to be sufficient, was really more than a full year. I had agreed to pay the costs of the undertaking out of my Contingent Fund, but I soon found that, because of its specific limitations, I could not do so, and I therefore paid him only \$850.00, and his actual expenses incurred while doing the work, were a large part of that amount.

The details pertaining to all of the State buildings, which he presented to the Board of Public Works, would, if printed, make a good sized volume. These details are on file in the office of the Secretary of State, and unquestionably are of great value to the State. Selections were culled from the report and were printed in pamphlet form, and have been subsequently used by the Board of Public Works in dealing with the insurance upon the State's property.

I subjoin Mr. Littlepage's letter to the Board of Public Works in submitting his detailed report. This letter, in plain language, explains the field of inquiry covered by his investigations, and is briefer than I could possibly make it, in order that all of the facts may be fully placed before you.

Charleston, W. Va., July 27, 1899.

TO THE HONORABLE BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS,  
OF THE STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA:

Gentlemen:—

With a view of giving you an outline of the condition of things met with in the investigation of the State's Insurance, of conveying an idea of the dangerous effects to the State's interest, of the insurance methods confronting this and former administrations during the past twenty years, and of trying to show the immediate and ultimate benefits growing out of the work of systematically revising the insurance written on the State's property, I beg leave to call your attention to the following:

Of the 74 buildings considered in the Insurance Estimates on the State's property, 38 had records from which values, &c., could be ascertained; 36 were without records, except as to age; neither estimates nor contracts of the costs of constructing the buildings were found; 3 of the buildings were properly insured, as to value, but under objectionable policy forms; 4 inadequately insured; 48 excessively over-insured; 12 insured under



void insurance contracts; and 7 without any insurance at all on them. The original cost of the above buildings was about \$1,750,336.00. Of the personal property, which originally cost about \$179,195.00, about 30 per cent. was insured under objectionable contracts, because the values were exaggerated and the distribution of insurance with reference to the same was found to be unsatisfactory. Of the personal property insured, the value of the property was equal to about 45 per cent. of the insurance in force on the same.

Of the \$956,240.00 insurance found in force on the State's property, \$534,740.00 was found to represent void and excessive insurance. Of the remaining \$421,500.00, classified as valid insurance, \$150,000.00 was under voidable insurance contracts, because of technical insurance conditions existing in the Policy Forms covering on the property, which practically held the State subservient to the Insurance Companies, in the event of loss, should the Companies avail themselves of the advantages enjoyed under their contracts, thus leaving on the State's property \$271,500.000 insurance out of the \$956,240.00, upon which the State could depend as being perfectly reliable indemnity. Of the \$271,500.00 insurance still remaining, \$28,000.00 was written on the "Mechanical Hall" and contents, at the West Virginia University. This property was about five years old, and as far as has been ascertained, cost the State about \$55,000.00. It was destroyed by fire since the work of revising the State's Insurance was begun, and the loss was adjusted at \$26,000.00, the State paying \$2,000.00 salvage to the Companies carrying the insurance, which would finally leave \$243,500.00 of the original \$956,240.00 insurance in force. When considering the per cent. of salvage made by the Insurance Companies in this instance—\$2,000.00 of the \$28,000.00, or 7 per cent.—as a basis of calculation, the State would have remaining on its entire property \$226,460.00, or about 24 per cent. of the original volume of insurance on which it has been paying premiums during, at least, the last twenty years.

Of the premiums amounting to \$17,519.94, paid by the State on the basis of three-year Insurance Contracts, it was found that \$10,122.25 was being paid on void and excessive Insurance Contracts, or that during the past twenty years, about \$67,480.00 of the State's money has passed through this source into the hands of insurance companies, without the remotest benefits accruing to the State therefrom.

If the facts disclosed by the methods of adjusting the loss on the "Mechanical Hall" and contents, are to be taken into account, when considering the technical advantages in favor of the Insurance Companies, carrying the \$150,000.00 insurance

referred to, the State has been paying premiums on \$956,240.00 insurance during the entire time, while it has only been enjoying the possible benefits arising from about \$252,500.00 of insurance, and it has paid about \$28,368.00 in premiums on valid insurance contracts, and \$88,438.00. in premiums on worthless insurance during the last twenty years.

Under the plan of revising the State's Insurance, the foregoing methods have been thoroughly considered, and every precaution taken to eliminate them from the Insurance Contracts to be written on the State's property, by ascertaining as accurately as practicable, Insurance values of the property to be insured, then causing equitable distribution of the insurance with reference to such values, requiring concurrent Policy Forms with privileges contained in the same that will change the relative positions of the contracting parties, and more equitably consider the State's interest in the premises.

The amount of insurance necessary to cover the property under former insurance contracts, was found to be \$496,000.00. The insurance necessary to cover property not included under the above contracts, is \$146,000.00, which will require \$642,000.00, under revised Insurance Contracts, to adequately cover the State's Interest in property thus far known, so that the following will be found to be approximately true:

Ins. found in force under former contracts . . . . .	\$956,240 00
Ins. recommended under revised contracts . . . . .	642,000 00
Showing a reduction in vol. of insur. of 33 per ct., or.	314,240 00
Valid ins. recommended under revision . . . . .	642,000 00
App. valid ins. in force under former ins. contracts. .	421,500 00
Increase of valid ins. under revision, 52 per cent. or. .	220,500 00

Under former insurance methods, the \$956,240.00 insurance found in force, was costing the State \$17,519.94, every three years. The additional \$146,000.00 necessary to cover the State's property not covered under former contracts, would cost, proportionately, \$2,674.72, for the same term of years, making a total cost to the State of \$20,194.66 in premiums, in order to cover its insurable property. Under the Revision, the \$642,000.00 recommended on the State's property costs the State, for the same term of years, \$10,749.28, showing a difference between the costs to the State of \$9,445.38 in three years. To this add \$1,271.50 of void insurance premiums, and \$1,577.15 of proportionate short rate premiums refunded to the State by the Insurance Companies carrying the State's Insurance, making a total salvage to the State, on a basis of 3 years, of \$12,294.03. Under former conditions, for five years, the \$956,000.00 found in force, cost the State \$29,199.90; the \$146,000.00 of new in-

insurance would cost \$4,457.87, on the same basis, making a total cost, for the insurance found in force and the amount necessary to cover its insurable interest, of \$33,657.77, for a term of five years. Under the Revision, \$642,000.00 for 5 years costs the State \$16,086.67, showing a difference between the costs of former and revised insurance contracts of \$17,571.10, to which add \$1,271.50 of void premiums, and \$1,577.15 of proportionate short rate premiums, as above, showing a salvage to the State, on a basis of five years, under the Revision, of \$20,419.75.

Your Honorable Body, having adopted the 5-year plan of insurance, under the Policy Forms, Estimates and Recommendations submitted in my final Report on the Revision of the State's Insurance, has caused an approximate net salvage to be made for the State, as compared with former conditions, of \$20,419.75. The most important benefits derived from the revision of the State's Insurance will be the protection arising from more equitable Insurance Contracts covering on \$642,000.00 worth of the State's property which might possibly be damaged by fire, and approximately a million and a half dollars' worth considered otherwise than from an Insurance point of view. When the plan of revision shall have been finally completed, any citizen, by an examination of the Expiration Books containing the data, can ascertain, at any time, the amount of insurance in force, the Companies carrying the same, and the number of policies covering on every plant, individual building, and all classes of insurable personal property owned by the State. In other words, the State will have its Insurance systematically arranged in keeping with proper Insurance methods, instead of the dangerous confusion met with under former conditions.

Very respectfully,

CHARLES F. LITTLEPAGE.

I have laid this entire subject before you for several reasons: 1. Because the State, for a quarter of a century, or more, has been paying large sums of money on excessive valuations of the costs of its buildings, and it could not, therefore, have collected anything like the amount of the insurance it was carrying, in case of even total losses by fire. 2. It is a waste of the people's money to carry insurance on buildings for a greater sum than the cost of repairing or rebuilding any property destroyed by fire. 3. It is a woeful waste of anybody's money to place insurance on any buildings, or parts of buildings, (such as foundations) which could not possibly be injured by fire. 4. Only the real injury to a building, and nothing more, will be



paid by Insurance Companies, in case a fire occurs. 5. All probable losses to any particular building can be carefully computed, even before a fire occurs. 6. All insurance policies should be concurrent, to avoid litigation, in case a fire should occur. 7. All insurance policy forms should be technically written, so as to comply in every particular with the law pertaining to any specific piece of property owned by the State. That is to say, if the statute creating a certain State Board makes it a corporate body, the insurance should follow the technical language of the statute, in order to avoid complications in the adjustment of losses by fires. 8. By taking out policies of insurance for five years, instead of three, according to the custom which has prevailed on State property for more than a generation, the State receives the benefit of two fifths of the cost of its insurance. That is to say, if a policy of insurance is taken out for the term of three years by the State, instead of one year, it will have the benefit of one year free, and if taken for five years, it will have two years' insurance free; and, 9, and finally, all insurance policies were cancelled, at short rates, and others were written, so as to make all policies of the same date, and all of them concurrent, and therefore all of them will hereafter expire at the same time.

Therefore, while it cost a considerable sum of money to bring about the results I have enumerated, in the end, it is money saved to the treasury, and I trust that it will be your pleasure to allow Mr. Littlepage a proper compensation for the valuable service he has, at great pains, rendered to the tax-payers of West Virginia.

#### UNIFORM DRESS FOR INSANE PATIENTS.

I am impressed with the idea that it would be cheaper for the State, and more satisfactory to the patients in our Insane Hospitals and their friends, also, to adopt a uniform dress, or style of clothing, for all of the patients. If this idea impresses you favorably, a short statute will meet the requirement.

#### FISH COMMISSIONERS.

The many creeks and rivers throughout West Virginia render it a splendid field for Fish Culture. No State in the Union, perhaps, has advantages superior to West Virginia in this respect. I am firmly convinced, therefore, that we should have a well organized and active Board of Fish Commissioners, whose duty it shall be to foster the fishery interests of the State; to advise the Legislature in all matters pertaining to

fishery legislation; and to secure by protective, fish cultural, and educational methods, the increase of useful water products. At least one member of the Commission should be a man of scientific attainments, competent to intelligently deal with the biological phases of fish commission work.

Four years ago, the Legislature created the office of Game and Fish Warden, and although no appropriation was set apart to make the office effective, yet much valuable work has been done in preserving our fish and game. That was a step in the right direction; and now, it seems to me, another step forward should be taken to increase the product of our waters. It will be the duty of the Commission to produce the fish, and of the Warden to protect them. Other States have enacted such a law, and West Virginia should keep in the van of progress.

#### "JIM CROW" RAILROAD CARS.

West Virginia has never adopted a law which abridged the rights and privileges of any of its citizens, on account of race, condition or color, and I hope it never will. The States of Virginia and Kentucky, however, have enacted statutes which prevent colored people from riding in railroad cars along with white people, and one of the railroads which passes across a portion of our State, has on one occasion, at least, ejected colored citizens from one of its trains, because they declined to occupy seats in a car which was set apart exclusively for colored people. I do not think such action was in any sense justifiable, and especially so, since no Legislative Assembly of West Virginia has ever adopted a statute allowing a discrimination of that character. When citizens pay full fare for passenger privileges on any railroad train in this State, they should not be proscribed because of race or color, and I therefore recommend that our existing statute be so amended as to prohibit such discrimination in the future.

#### ADJUTANT GENERAL'S PUBLICATIONS.

For the past four years, in addition to the regular duties of his office, Adjutant General John W. M. Appleton, has been hard at work preparing a correct roster of all West Virginia soldiers who participated in the war of the Rebellion and the war with Spain, and also of all home guards who rendered service to the State during the civil war. The manuscript which he has compiled will, when printed, make three royal octavo volumes. The value of these records cannot be over estimated, and by all means should be published. General Appleton, in his annual

report, asks an appropriation to cover the expense of printing the results of his four years' work, and in his request I fully concur. He found it necessary to borrow a small sum of money (\$300.00), in order to pay additional clerk hire to complete the manuscript of his books, to get the work ready for the printer by the time of your present assembling. I recommend a special appropriation to refund to him this sum of money.

### TAXING PIPE LINES.

Under the existing statutes, the Board of Public Works cannot tax the oil pipe lines, which, in a sense, honeycomb a goodly number of our counties, for the reason that the owners of these lines only transport their own products, and not the products of others, and therefore, perhaps, cannot be classed as common carriers, or public transportation companies. Up to this time, the Board of Public Works has not assumed control of the taxation of this large and valuable class of property within the State, which should bear its proper share of the burden of taxation. The Board, however, by many inquiries of the County Assessors, has found that they have assessed the pipe lines in most of the counties; but there is no uniform rule among them in fixing the value of this class of property, and their assessments are necessarily uneven and unsatisfactory. It is my opinion that the State, by this system of assessments, is losing a large amount of revenue which justly belongs to it, and it cannot be remedied until the general law is so amended as to require pipe line companies to make sworn annual statements to the Board of Public Works, in the same manner as railroads and other common carriers report. It is not my purpose to endeavor to impose improper or unjust taxation upon them, and it seems to me that it would be to their interests to have the tax levied by the Board of Public Works, where it would be uniform and fair, than to have County Assessors to fix valuations, without any uniformity whatever. The importance of this matter is worthy of your thoughtful consideration.

### CHAPLAIN TO THE PENITENTIARY.

It is a remarkable fact that our State penitentiary has never had a regularly employed Chaplain, to look after the moral and spiritual interests of the prisoners. In my last message, I called your attention to this fact, and I now beg to again request that the law relating to the government of the penitentiary, be so amended as to authorize the appointment of Chaplain, who shall remain at the prison continuously, and devote



all of his time in encouraging the convicts to reform, and thus resolve to live moral and upright lives in the future. So far as I can learn, ours is the only State of any magnitude, which does not maintain such an officer.

### FINAL REMARKS.

The foregoing observations and recommendations conclude my second and last Message to a West Virginia Legislature. I shall retire from the chair of the Chief Executive with grateful thanks to the people of West Virginia for the high honors they have bestowed upon me, and to my associates of the present administration for the many courtesies and kindnesses that they have extended to me.

From my induction into office until the present, I have endeavored, at all times, to keep before me the Constitutional injunction "he shall take care that the laws be faithfully executed;" and I have also had constantly in mind that other important declaration of the Constitution, that "all citizens of the State possess equal civil and political rights and public privileges." In the discharge of my official duties, I have avoided discriminating in favor of any class, race or creed, and have done my utmost to be the Governor, not only of the political party that elected me to office, but of all the people as well.

Some may claim, and indeed have done so, that I have been too liberal with the pardoning power. That I have been exceedingly cautious, and perhaps too much so, at times, in the exercise of this prerogative, others insist cannot be truthfully denied; and yet, on the whole, the number of cases to which clemency has been extended, are no more than the average of my predecessors, when the number of convicts are taken into consideration. At any rate, if I have made mistakes, I hope they have been on the side of mercy, which, as a learned text writer expresses it, "more becomes a magistrate than too stern justice." What I have done in all things, I have done for the best, according to the light that was before me, and I leave my acts in the hands of my people, who will, I am sure, render a just and impartial verdict.

Trusting and believing that your present session will be marked by wisdom, prudence and moderation in all that may come before you, and that your brief sojourn at the Capital of our prosperous and growing State, may be both pleasant and profitable, I beg to subscribe myself,

Your most obedient servant,

GEO. W. ATKINSON,

Governor.















## A TRIBUTE TO A DECEASED FRIEND.

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STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA,  
EXECUTIVE CHAMBER,

Charleston, Dec. 1, 1900.

FRANK W. CLARK, ESQ.,

New Martinsville, W. Va.,

My Dear Sir: I heartily approve your suggestion that the "Wetzel Democrat" should publish an edition in memory of its late distinguished editor, Col. Robert McEldowney, and I trust that your suggestion will be successfully carried out.

It was my pleasure to know Col. McEldowney personally, and, I may say, intimately for more than a quarter of a century. Although he and I differed in our political views, we were always the very best of friends. We were associated together at different times in the trial of important cases, and were always opposing each other in matters of a political character. We have had many friendly discussions on varied subjects, and I invariably found him well informed, courteous, gentlemanly and manly. Two things were peculiar to Col. McEldowney, and I think every one will agree with me as to these. First, he was always well dressed. I never saw him that he did not look as neat and as clean and, as the old saying is, like he had just emerged from a "band box." He was invariably up to date in his method of dress and personal appearance. Second, it made no difference where one met him, whether in the court room, on railroad trains, in editorial office, in political discussions, anywhere, everywhere, he was always a gentleman, and the term "gentleman," in point of fact, embraces the entire make up of a manly man.

Although those who knew Col. McEldowney regarded him as a man of far above ordinary ability, yet only a few who got really close to him knew of his transcendent natural ability and power. Ponderous in physical stature, always being the one of all others most observed in any gathering of men, he was as brainy as he was large in stature. Invariably felicitous in conversation, full of anecdotes and illustrations, chaste, though crisp in expression, he could see a point as quickly as any other man I ever knew, and could apply it with wonderful force and effect.

He was an able newspaper editor, and towered above the most of his co-editors, especially as a paragrapher. He was apt in framing aphorisms. His sentences were short and crisp, and his satire was resistless. Always good natured in all that he wrote, yet his powers of sarcasm and ridicule were of the highest order.

He had naturally a poetic mind. Had he begun early and trained himself carefully, he would have been a great poet. He saw everything through poetic vision, and his prose writings were often largely tinged with poetry. During his illness he wrote several poems that any one who has the capacity to judge what poetry is, will pronounce real poetry. He only, however, occasionally attempted poetic composition.

Taken from the throng of the living at the zenith of physical and mental manhood, his friends were deeply grieved, and all of us miss his genial and generous associations. He was my friend, and a friend of all who sought to do right and perform their duties well. He was an all round manly man, and was upright and true. "Peace to his ashes; rest to his soul."

Most truly yours,

GEO. W. ATKINSON.

#### A PROCLAMATION BY THE GOVERNOR.

WHEREAS, at the December term of the Circuit Court of Preston County, held at Kingwood, the seat of Justice of said County, J. Wesley Beatty, was tried and convicted of the crime of murder in the first degree, without recommendation of mercy to the said Court, and was thereupon sentenced by the Judge thereof to be hanged at the Penitentiary of the State of West Virginia, February 15th; and,

WHEREAS, Application has been made to me by the attorney of the said Beatty for a respite until Friday, the 12th day of April next, for the purpose of applying to the Honorable Advisory Board of Pardons of this State, with a view of commutation of sentence to life imprisonment in the Penitentiary of this State; and,

WHEREAS, it is certainly proper that said Beatty, by his counsel, should have an opportunity to have his case heard before said Advisory Board of Pardons, which meets early in the month of April next;

Therefore, I, G. W. Atkinson, Governor of the State of West Virginia, do hereby grant to said J. Wesley Beatty a respite until the 12th day of April, A. D., 1901, and hereby direct that in the event a commutation of sentence is not granted to the said Beatty, he shall, on said 12th day of April, at the Penitentiary of the State of West Virginia, be, by the Warden of said prison, hanged by the neck until he is dead.

Given under my hand this 4th day of February, A. D., 1901, and in the thirty-eighth year of the State.

[Seal.]

G. W. ATKINSON.

By the Governor:

W. M. O. DAWSON,  
Secretary of State.

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### EXECUTIVE ORDER.

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WHEREAS, at the January term, 1901, of the Circuit Court of Raleigh county, J. A. Lilly was convicted in two cases on charges of violation of the Revenue Laws of the State, and was sentenced by the Judge of said Court to pay a fine of \$25.00 in each case, and the cost of the prosecution, and was sentenced to the county jail for the term of twenty days in each case, making forty days imprisonment; and,

WHEREAS, it appears from facts set out in a petition presented to me, duly signed by a number of reputable citizens of said Raleigh county, that said Lilly has paid the fines and costs in both of the cases above referred to; and,

WHEREAS, the said Lilly is in a weak state of health resulting from a severe case of typhoid fever, and the County Jail of said County is in a bad sanitary condition, making it a serious risk to his health to have him confined at this time; and,

WHEREAS, the facts set out in the petition above referred to show that it is questionable as to whether said Lilly should have been convicted of the offenses charged against him, because of the equivocating character of the testimony of the one witness for the State, who testified against him, and also as to the character of the sales of liquor, which it is alleged that he made, he having ordered liquors in conjunction with other parties from an authorized dealer in liquors for private use, and not for sale to others; and,

WHEREAS, said petition sets out the fact that said Lilly desires to present his case to the Honorable Advisory Board of



Pardons for relief from said terms of imprisonment, and inasmuch as the regular session of said Board does not take place until about the expiration of said sentence, a respite is asked until the 15th of April, when his case can properly be presented to the Advisory Board of Pardons.

Therefore, I, G. W. Atkinson, Governor of the State of West Virginia, do hereby order and direct that said J. A. Lilly shall be released from the County Jail of Raleigh County until that time, and if the Advisory Board of Pardons does not grant relief to him, it is hereby ordered that he shall be imprisoned on the 15th day of April, and shall be required to serve the remainder of the forty days term of sentence imposed upon him by the Circuit Court of Raleigh County.

Given under my hand this 5th day of February, A. D., 1901, and the 38th year of the State.

[SEAL.]

G. W. ATKINSON.

By the Governor:

W. M. O. DAWSON,  
Secretary of State.

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## MEASURES AND REFORMS WHICH SHOULD BE ACCOMPLISHED.

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STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA,  
EXECUTIVE CHAMBER,  
Charleston, January 8, 1901.

PAUL LATZKE, ESQ.,

Room 1917, No. 150 Nassau Street, New York.

Dear Sir: Our State Legislature is in session, and my answer to your inquiry of the 2nd inst. must therefore be brief, and necessarily hastily prepared.

Your inquiry reads as follows: "What is the most important measure or reform that should be accomplished in your State during the 20th century, and what National measure would be most beneficial to the people of the United States at large?"

First. General reform is needed along many lines, both State and National. I would place first, among State reforms, the enactment of a uniform divorce law. The laws of some of our States are so lax in this respect that the annulling of marriage contracts is almost a farce. If all of the States maintained the same law on this subject, divorces would be much more difficult to secure, and consequently marriage contracts would be

considered very much more carefully than they now are before they are entered into.

Second. I have thought much on the subject of municipal ownership of public utilities, and have found that there are two sides to the question. It is easy enough for a town or city to own its gas and electric plants and its water works, which prevails in many localities, but to go farther and undertake the control of street railroads, telephones, and the like, open up difficulties and embarrassments hard to control. I am quite sure that every town and city should have absolute control over its water works and plants for furnishing light to the people, but I doubt very much the propriety of going farther along that line. As to the Nation becoming the owner of railroads and telegraph lines, I have regarded always as impracticable and impossible. I mention two principal objections: (1) It is beyond the financial ability of the General Government to provide a fund sufficiently large to purchase railroads and telegraph lines, and, (2) it would tend too much to the centralization of power in the General Government. To my mind, it seems impossible for the Government to appoint all of the employees necessary to operate such industries.

Third. I regard the construction of the Nicaragua Canal as one among the most important public works that can be carried through during the century. Its value to the commerce not only of the United States, but of the civilized world, can scarcely be estimated. I am clearly of opinion that this great undertaking will become a fixed fact within the first quarter of the new century.

Fourth. Our American shipping facilities is another matter of great importance to the American people. The fact that only about nine per cent. of American products are shipped on American bottoms, shows the importance of our own people owning their own ships to carry our own commerce.

Fifth. The building of a more powerful American Navy is, of course, of less importance than the measures above referred to. Nevertheless, to maintain the high character and standing of our great Republic, a larger and better equipped Navy is essential.

Sixth. A higher standard of moral excellence should be required of public servants in the public service. I am glad to note that the people are moving forward in this respect. Unquestionably there is a healthier sentiment existing now than at any former period of our National history. Moral qualifications in candidates for high places are more and more considered as essentials to the public welfare.

Very respectfully yours,

G. W. ATKINSON.

Governor of West Virginia.

SPECIAL MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR.

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STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA,  
EXECUTIVE CHAMBER,  
Charleston, February 8, 1901.

*Gentlemen of the Senate and House of Delegates:*

My attention has been called to a letter addressed by the Clerk of the Supreme Court of the United States to the Attorney General of this State, under date of January 22nd, 1901, relating to the pendency of a case in the Supreme Court of the United States, styled "S. D. Hatfield, et al., Appellants, vs. Henry C. King, No. 526, October term, 1900," in which it is presumed that the State of West Virginia has certain equitable interests which should be looked after by the State.

The appeal referred to in the letter of the Clerk of the Supreme Court of the United States, is taken from a decree of the Circuit Court of the United States for the District of West Virginia, holding null and void Sections 3 and 16 of Article 13 of the Constitution of West Virginia, forfeiting lands for non-entry on the Land Books and non-payment of taxes thereon, and transferring the forfeited lands to certain Junior grantees and other occupants.

The letter of the Clerk states that on the 21st day of January, 1901, the Supreme Court entered an order in said cause, as follows:

"Supreme Court of the United States,  
No. 526, October Term, 1900.

S. D. Hatfield, et al., Appellants,  
vs.  
Henry C. King.

"It is ordered by the Court that this cause be and the same is hereby restored to the docket for oral argument, and the Clerk is directed to bring this order to the attention of the Attorney General of West Virginia."

The Clerk of that Court has transmitted to Attorney General Rucker a copy of said order, along with a copy of the record of said cause, and the briefs of counsel therein.

Believing that the State's interests should be heard at the



oral argument so ordered by the Supreme Court, and with that view, I recommend that the Board of Public Works be authorized to employ the Attorney General of this State to appear and argue the cause as invited in said order.

Very respectfully,

G. W. ATKINSON.  
Governor.

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### SENATE BILL NUMBER 105.

#### *Reasons by the Governor for Approving the Same.*

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This bill amends and re-enacts, so as to reduce into one act the three several acts heretofore passed relative to the charter of the town of New Martinsville.

The point has been raised before me that New Martinsville does not contain the requisite population prescribed by the Constitution to allow the Legislature to enact a special charter. The Constitution, section thirty-nine, article six, and section forty-seven of chapter forty-seven of the Code, place an inhibition upon the enactment of a special law chartering a town of fewer than two thousand inhabitants. But I do not believe that these inhibitions can be applied to the bill now before me, for the following reasons:

1. The town of New Martinsville was originally chartered by an act of the Legislature of Virginia, passed in 1837, and in 1866 the charter was amended; and in 1871 an act was again passed amending the charter of the said town of New Martinsville. The Constitution did not interfere with any of the charters of the various towns and cities in the State granted by the Legislature of Virginia, so that any charters granted previous to the formation of the State, or previous to the adoption of the Constitution of 1872, was therefore at the passage of the Constitution a valid charter. It is true that the Constitution provides that after its adoption, no special act shall be granted chartering towns of less than two thousand population, or amending such charters; but according to Judge Cooley, in his great work on Constitutional Law, such provision is only prospective in its operation; and besides, a careful reading of the Constitution, and a correct interpretation of that provision, makes it to include charters granted, or asked for after its passage, and means to prohibit the granting of such charters or such amendments, and leaves the old acts of the Legislature of

Virginia, passed before the war, as they then were. Now, unless we can amend charters granted under either, we are wholly without remedy, for there is no provision anywhere in the Constitution for reaching them by any general law; and there is no prohibition in the Constitution preventing the Legislature from amending acts (and charters are acts) passed previously to that time. Thus, it seems to me, that the population question does not enter into this matter at all.

2. There is, as I have stated, a controversy among the citizens of New Martinsville upon the question of the population of the town under the provisions of the proposed new charter. One side to the controversy claims that the real population is greater than the requisite two thousand inhabitants, and the other sets up the claim that it is less. It seems to me that this is a question of fact which was passed upon by the members of the Legislature, and they having agreed upon that point by the adoption of this act, it is not proper for me to re-open that question. I therefore cannot persuade myself that it is the prerogative or duty of the Executive to consider such question, even if the Constitutional proposition to which I have referred, were a material issue, which, in my judgment, it is not.

3. I am also of opinion that the question of the population of a town seeking a charter, is solely legislative, and it is a very doubtful matter in my mind, when the Legislature has satisfied itself on the point of population, whether the Executive or the courts can go back of the act to enquire as to whether the Legislature acted correctly or not. The case of *Luscher vs. Scites*, 4 W. Va., page 11, involves this proposition. In that case the question at issue was, whether Lincoln county, which had then been created, possessed the area and population under the limits of the Constitution to become a county. The question was distinctly raised in a suit brought to restrain the collection of taxes, on the ground that the act creating the county of Lincoln was unconstitutional and void, because the county did not contain within its boundary lines the requisite number of square miles or the requisite number of population, and also because the county of Cabell was reduced below the constitutional area. The court held in that case that the subject of creating new counties belongs to the Legislature alone by the provisions of the Constitution; that to exercise the power thus conferred, the Legislature must inform itself of the existence of the facts such as area, population, etc., prerequisite to enable it to act on the subject; how the Legislature shall do so and on what terms, it alone must determine; and when the Legislature has so determined, acting upon the knowledge before it, it must conclude further inquiry *by all the departments* of the government; and the final action terminating in an act of legislation in due form, must of necessity presuppose and determine all the facts pre-

requisite to the enactment. The courts therefore cannot go into an inquiry as to the truth or falsity of facts upon which an act of the Legislature is predicated, where the latter has sole jurisdiction of the subject, and what is true of the judiciary department of the State must apply also with equal force to the executive department.

In view of these facts, I approve Senate Bill No. 105, amending the charter of the town of New Martinsville.

GEO. W. ATKINSON,  
Governor.

Charleston, February 12, 1901.

### EXECUTIVE PROCLAMATION.

WHEREAS, At the January term, 1901, of the circuit court of Wayne county, one George W. Copley was convicted of a felony, and was sentenced to the penitentiary of the State for the term of two years, by the judge of said court; and,

judge of said court, from the 8th day of the present month, in  
WHEREAS A stay of thirty days was given said Copley by the order to afford said Copley an opportunity to present his case to the Advisory Board of Pardons; and,

WHEREAS, Said Pardon Board does not meet until after the expiration of the stay granted by the judge in this case; and,

WHEREAS, A large number of the reputable citizens of Wayne county do not believe that the said Copley should be sent to the penitentiary, and believe that when the facts are presented to the Advisory Board of Pardons, that said Board will recommend that a pardon may be granted in his case; and,

WHEREAS, From the statement of facts submitted to me in this case, I deem it proper that the case should be heard by the Advisory Board of Pardons before the sentence of the court is carried out;

Therefore, I, George W. Atkinson, Governor of the State of West Virginia, do hereby grant a respite of thirty days in this case from the 8th day of March, 1901, and unless the said Copley is pardoned on or before the expiration of this respite, he shall be conveyed to the penitentiary by the sheriff of Wayne county, in accordance with the sentence of the circuit court of said county.

Given under my hand this 15th day of February, A. D., 1901, and in the 38th year of the State,

By the Governor,

G. W. ATKINSON,

WM. M. O. DAWSON,

Governor.

Secretary of State.



## SENATE BILL NO. 139.

*Views of the Governor Thereon.*

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The question is raised before me that the town of St. Mary's did not contain the requisite population required by section thirty-nine, article VI of the Constitution, to authorize the Legislature to grant a special charter to said town. This, therefore, involves a question of fact, and the problem left for me to solve in approving or disapproving the bill, is whether the Executive, which is one of the three co-ordinate departments of the State government, has any constitutional right to consider such question.

I hold that he possesses no such authority. The Legislative power is an attribute of sovereignty, and the exercise of that attribute is vested by the people of the State in the Senate and House of Delegates. The power to grant charters to towns and cities belongs wholly to the Legislature under the Constitution, but before this power can be exercised, it must be made to appear that a town, to receive a special charter, contains two thousand or more people. The legal presumption therefore is, that when the Legislature granted this charter, this fact had been clearly established to the satisfaction of a majority of the members of the Legislature, otherwise that body would not and could not have passed this bill. All of its members were sworn to support the Constitution of the State, and it is not to be presumed that they would violate their oaths of office by passing the bill in question, without the requisite proof to enable them so to do.

Not only does the subject of granting charters to towns and cities belong to the Legislature, but it belongs to no other department of the government. To exercise this power, the Legislature must inform itself of the existence of the facts prerequisite to enable it to act on the subject. How it shall do so, and upon what evidence, the Legislators themselves alone must determine; and when so determined, it must conclude further inquiry, as I see it, by the Executive and Judiciary departments of the government. Therefore, the final action terminating in an act of legislation in due form, must of necessity presuppose and determine all the facts prerequisite to the enactment; and that, too, as fully and as effectually as a final judgment of a

competent judicial tribunal of general jurisdiction would do in any case that can properly be brought before it.

My opinion, therefore, is, that the passage of the bill granting a special charter to the town of St. Mary's is the solemn affirmation of record, by the only tribunal having jurisdiction so to act, that the constitutional requirement, as to requisite population, had been and was fully complied with, or otherwise the charter could not have been granted.

For these reasons I approve Senate Bill No. 139, granting a special charter to the town of St. Marys, in the county of Pleasants.

G. W. ATKINSON,  
Governor.

Charleston, February 18, 1901.

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#### SPECIAL MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR.

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##### *Gentlemen of the Senate and House of Delegates:*

You are aware of the fact that a great Exposition of the industries of the New World is to be held at Buffalo, N. Y., beginning May 1st next and ending October 30th. It is expected that the industries of the greater portions of North, Central and South America will be on exhibition. As I stated in my bi-ennial message to your Honorable Body at the beginning of your present session, I deemed it very important that West Virginia, which is perhaps the richest of all the States in the Union in natural resources, should be properly represented in said Exposition. I also stated that I had conferred with several prominent citizens of the State several months before the beginning of your present session relative to taking advanced steps with a view of having our State properly represented in this great Pan-American exposition. To be properly represented, it was necessary to begin work, as many of us believed, before the meeting of your Honorable Body, from whom an appropriation of a reasonable amount for a proper representation of our industries could be asked. As previously stated to your Honorable Body, it was believed the proper thing to do to take the preliminary steps necessary to secure a building of suitable dimensions for the accommodation of our own people, which, at the same time, would be creditable to the State.

In accordance with this line of operations, I borrowed, in the name of the State of West Virginia, the sum of \$10,000 to enable the Commission, which body had been appointed about one

year ago, to begin work. The money was turned over to the commission, which body had elected a President, Secretary and Treasurer, after a bond had been taken from the Treasurer in the sum of \$15,000. The Commissioners started work most energetically, and were set upon having a creditable representation of our exhibits at the Exposition. An architect was employed to prepare a plan and specifications for the building, which were accepted, and the contract was let to the lowest responsible bidder. The building, though not an expensive one in comparison with others, is nevertheless, I am informed, one of the handsomest on the Exposition grounds. The contractors begun their work a short time before the meeting of the Legislature. After the assembling of your Honorable Body, some opposition was developed to the granting of an appropriation, and work was stopped upon the building. An agent was employed to arrange exhibits from different parts of the State, who entered upon his duties and reported to the Commissioners that the people gladly seconded the movement of the Commission to send exhibits to Buffalo. The Commissioners necessarily had several preliminary meetings, and also a part of them made one or more trips to Buffalo with the object in view of securing a site for the West Virginia Building, and also space in the general exhibition building for our State exhibits. Expenses were incurred, and which the commission is obligated to pay, including their own expenses, without salary, aggregating the sum of four thousand six hundred and fifty-seven dollars and twenty-nine cents (\$4,657.29). The vouchers are in my possession, and can be seen and examined at your pleasure.

I desire to say to your Honorable Body that the \$10,000 was borrowed in good faith, and the work was begun with a commendable spirit on the part of the Commissioners, and it was believed by all of us concerned, that West Virginia would make a very creditable showing on the Pan-American Exposition grounds. I feel now, as I did when the money was borrowed, that West Virginia should, by all means, be represented in this forthcoming Exposition of the resources of the New World, and I beg to say that I do not believe our State can afford to refuse to appropriate a reasonable sum of money for the exhibit of our great resources. We are looking to an enlarged trade, especially in our coals, with the Central and South American Republics, which Republics we are assured, will be fully represented at the Exposition, and who will have many of their own people present. Nevertheless, if your Honorable Body decides to take a different view of this subject from myself and others of my way of thinking, I earnestly ask you, as only a matter of right and justice, to appropriate the sum of money above represented to be paid under the direction of the Board of Public Works, when they are fully satisfied by an examination of the



vouchers, that the amounts therein mentioned were properly, necessarily and justly expended. It is evident to the minds of all of you that the Charleston National Bank, from which the money was borrowed, must be paid both principal and interest, and if not paid by the State, it must be done by myself and such friends as see fit, willingly, to assist me in discharging the obligation.

The States of New York, Illinois, Pennsylvania, Michigan, Connecticut, Massachusetts, Wisconsin, Ohio, Rhode Island, Missouri, Alabama, Georgia, California, Mississippi, Louisiana, Washington, Oregon, Montana, Minnesota, South Dakota, New Jersey, New Mexico, Nebraska, Utah, Arizona and Oklahoma have all made appropriations, by their respective Legislatures, for suitable exhibits at the Pan-American Exposition; and nearly all of the States mentioned have erected individual State buildings.

G. W. ATKINSON,  
Governor.

Charleston, February 21, 1901.

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#### SENATE BILL NO. 91.

#### *Views of the Governor Thereon.*

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Four reasons have been assigned why this bill should not become a law, and upon which I am asked to veto the same, to wit:

1. That the title of the bill is contrary to section 30 of article VI of the Constitution, which provides that no act of the Legislature shall embrace more than one object, which shall be expressed in the title.

2. That the bill as passed does not, in terms, make provision for an apportionment of the city of Hinton's indebtedness which existed at the time of the passage of this bill, which releases from the present corporation about one-fourth of the population and territory of the city.

3. That the bill legislates out of office four councilmen and the city sergeant, who reside in the territory taken out of the city by the passage of this bill, which is contrary to section 6 of Article IV of the Constitution.

4. That section 10 of chapter XII of the Code, requires notice of an intention to apply for the amendment of a city charter, to be published four weeks in a newspaper of the city, before such application can be made to the Legislature.

All of these contentions I have carefully considered.

1. The title of the bill is in the following language:

"A Bill to amend and re-enact sections 1, 2, 6, 9 of chapter CIV of the acts of the Legislature of 1897, and add a new section thereto numbered 45."

I need only to refer to the cases of *Heath vs. Johnson*, 36 W. Va., 782; *State vs. Mines*, 38 W. Va., 126, and *Roby, Mayor, vs. Sheppard*, 42 W. Va., 286, in which the constitutionality of the titles of acts of the Legislature are exhaustively considered, to overrule this contention. The gist of these decisions is, that when an amendment in a title points not only to the chapter which is to be amended, but to the various sections also, it is a sufficient expression of the object of the law to prevent any of the evils which the constitutional provision was intended to remedy. That this is fully done in this particular case cannot be questioned, and I hold therefore that it is sufficient and complete.

2. The bill does not provide for the assumption or payment by the territory embraced in Upper Hinton of any portion of the city's debt. The Legislature could have so provided, and could have fixed any proportion thereof by it deemed fair and equitable, and constituted the same a charge on that portion separated by the act. The expediency and justice of so doing was a question for the Legislature to determine, and it has so determined by assigning no part of said indebtedness to Upper Hinton. It would certainly seem, therefore, that if its power to apportion be admitted, or shown, that the Executive would presume *prima facie*, that the Legislature had some good and sufficient reason for so doing, and acted fairly and wisely in leaving the whole of said debt to be borne by the city as now constituted.

It is certainly also to be presumed that the Legislature was aware that by omitting such a specific provision, the common law as established by the courts of last resort of most of the States of the Union, and as firmly established by the Court of Appeals of West Virginia, would attach to the statute as enacted and cause the whole of such indebtedness to rest where it belonged, and where practically if not literally all of the benefits had fallen; namely, upon the city of Hinton as its boundaries are fixed by this bill, and that that corporation would have all of the corporate property within its new limits. In other words, the Legislature having made no *specific* apportionment fixing the relative burdens to be borne by each portion of the territory legislated for, the law supplies the omission and fixes the terms in exactly the same manner that our statute of descents and distributions makes a will, or supplies the terms of distribution, for one dying intestate, and such settled law is to be taken and read into the act.

What the provisions fixed by the common law are, is well set-

tled in this State. In the case of *Board v. Board*, 30 W. Va., 425, the rights and powers of the Legislature in respect of the altering, increasing, or decreasing the boundaries of municipal and other public corporations, is exhaustively and learnedly discussed, and such right is fully sustained. The court therein decides that what, if any, proportion of corporate property and corporate indebtedness shall upon a division be apportioned between the old and the new corporation, is for the Legislature to determine; but that if the Legislature does not fix such proportion, then the whole indebtedness falls and must rest upon the old corporation with its new limits, and that all corporate property within such limits goes to the old corporation. The power of the Legislature to fix and determine such proportion is treated as unquestionable, and the court reviews many cases from other States and text writers which show that its decision was absolutely correct and fully sustain it. I quote the syllabus of the points and principles decided by our own court in that case:

"2. Upon the division of an old public corporation, and the creation of a new one out of a part of its inhabitants and territory, the Legislature may provide for an equitable apportionment or division of the corporate property, and impose upon the new corporation or upon the people and territory thus disannexed, the obligation to pay an equitable portion of the corporate debts.

"3. Where the Legislature does not prescribe any regulation for the apportionment of the property or that the new corporation shall pay any portion of the debt of the old, the old corporation will hold all the corporate property within its new limits, and be entitled to all the debts due the old corporation, and be responsible for all the debts of the corporation existing before and at the time of the division; and the new corporation will hold all the corporate property falling within its boundaries, to which the old corporation will have no claim.

"4. The powers exercised in the division of public corporations being purely legislative, the power to prescribe the rule by which the property of the corporation shall be divided, and the debts apportioned, being incidental to the power to divide the territory must also be strictly legislative, and the courts have no authority over the subject, and can only construe the act of the Legislature and see that the legislative will is carried into effect.

"5. The Legislature had the right to confer its power to divide public corporations on the county court, and though in the act conferring such power it gave no directions as to the apportionment of the property and debts of the old corporation, yet as incident to the power granted, the county court had the same power in that regard as existed in the Legislature before the



act was passed; and if such court divide a district and the order making such division is silent as to the apportionment of corporate property and debts, the same result will follow as if the district had been divided by the Legislature and the act was silent as to the apportionment of the corporate property and debts of the old corporation."

The law, as laid down in this case and also in the case of *Roby vs. Sheppard*, clearly shows the right of the Legislature to make the division of the city of Hinton, and also to make such apportionment of the debts and assets of the city at the time of the division, as it deemed proper, or by failing to provide that there be no apportionment at all. It is but just to presume that I, as the Executive of the State, should believe that the Legislature knew what it was doing, and also to know the effect of its failure to specifically so provide, if it saw fit so to do. Hence I conclude that it is not any part of my prerogative to set aside its act in this respect.

3. I cannot believe that an election to an office carries with it a vested right to the territory to which the duties of the office apply so as to prevent the Legislature from altering, decreasing or wiping out entirely a municipal corporation, should it deem that the public good required it. Legislating out of office is by no means an uncommon thing in West Virginia, and while nearly every session of our Legislature will show the abolition or change of some office, or the territory to which it applies, I have been unable to find any case where any court holds, or was ever asked to hold, that by reason of that fact the act was void. For instance, the Legislature of 1895 abolished the office of criminal judge of Wayne county, created by an act of 1893, and to which office a judge had been elected for a term of six years, by simply abolishing the court. At the same session the county of Mingo was formed out of Logan county, which doubtless reduced the fees of the office of sheriff of Logan county very materially, as it is claimed this act will for the sergeant of Hinton. The acts of our Legislature are full of similar legislation, and therefore I cannot consider seriously this contention in this particular case.

4. The contention that the intention of some of the citizens of Hinton to propose an amendment to the city's charter should have been advertised for four consecutive weeks prior to the convening of the Legislature, in a newspaper published within the city, as provided by section 10 of chapter XII of the Code, is purely a question of fact, over which the Executive has no control. Moreover, it cannot be contended that any act of our Legislature can, in any sense, bind the acts of a succeeding Legislature. Therefore this contention must be overruled.

For the reasons above set out, there is nothing left for me to

do, as Executive of the State, but approve Senate Bill No. 91, and allow it to become a law, which I accordingly do.

G. W. ATKINSON,

Governor.

Charleston, February 21, 1901.

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SENATE BILL NO. 70.

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*Veto by the Governor.*

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*Gentlemen of the Senate and House of Delegates.*

I have had but a very short time to devote to an investigation of this bill. It is my duty, under the Constitution, to investigate each bill passed by the Legislature, especially as to its Constitutional qualifications. I cannot dismiss from my mind the fact that the title of this bill is clearly in violation of section 3 article 6 of the Constitution, for the following reasons:

This bill purports to amend and re-enact Section 4 of Chapter 70 of the acts of 1883, as amended and re-enacted by chapter 59 of the acts of 1887. Section 4 of chapter 70 of the acts of 1893 provided the duties required of inspectors of mines. Chapter 59, of the acts of 1897 does not, in any way, affect section 4 of chapter 70, of the acts of 1883, but merely affects sections 1, 2 and 3 of that chapter. The act of 1897, however, (chapter 50, section 4), does amend section 4 of chapter 70 of the acts of 1883, and makes the law entirely different from what it was in the act of 1883. It is therefore evident that the present bill seeks to amend a Statute that has already been repealed, and refers to it in such a way as to make it misleading and incorrect. In other words, it is clearly a mis-statement, which cannot be held otherwise than as conflicting with the requirements of the constitutional provision above referred to.

The bill is also in conflict with the general law of the State relative to the Mining Bureau, which has been established for the protection of both miners and operators in this, that the present bill requires deputy inspectors to inspect all of the mines in their respective districts three times a year, without fixing any given period between the inspections that they may make, and also requires them to report annually to the Gover-

nor, while the general law requires the deputy inspectors to report to the chief mine inspector, whose duty it is to submit annual reports to the Governor. This provision in the bill practically destroys the Mining Bureau as at present organized under the laws of the State. House Bill No. 109, passed by the present session of the Legislature previously to the one now before me, covers, in detail, all of the points comprehended in the bill now before me, except the point of branding the capacity upon the cars in certain cases. If Senate Bill No. 70 should become a law, because of the fact that it passed subsequently to House Bill No. 109, will necessarily annul all parts of the same that are in conflict with it.

The deputy inspectors, under House Bill No. 109, passed at your present session, are required to visit each mine in their respective districts not less than every three months. The object of these inspections is for the protection of the lives of the men engaged in mining. Each inspector has an average of 80 miles of mines to inspect. It is estimated that at least one mine car is built or rebuilt at each mine every working day, which makes about 80 cars to be branded each working day at points widely separated. The time therefore occupied in complying with the requirements of this bill will consume a large part of the time of the inspectors, which necessarily will prevent the mines from being properly inspected.

It is a conceded fact that the same volume of different coals has different weight, which renders it a difficult problem to arrive at the standard volume for all coals; that is to say, a car containing a certain number of cubic feet will contain more or less coal, as the case may be, owing to the specific gravity of the seam or vein of coal used. In some operations, I am informed, there is more than one seam of coal mined and that the cars are used interchangeably in each seam, according to the demands of trade. In such cases, the branding of cars, as provided in this bill, will necessarily be misleading and will be productive of dissatisfaction and contests between the miners and the operators.

Moreover, there is no penalty fixed by the bill for the failure of the inspectors to brand coal cars in accordance with its requirements, nor is any penalty affixed for operators who might refuse to allow their cars to be branded by the inspectors, or indeed, for refusing generally to observe the requirements of the bill. A law without a penalty affixed, as a matter of course, cannot be enforced.

However much I might desire to see the interests of the coal miner, in every respect, cared for, I cannot, under my oath of office, approve a bill which is unconstitutional, conflicting and inoperative. I therefore decline to approve Senate Bill No. 70, and accordingly veto the same. The Attorney General con-



curs with me in my construction of the Constitution relating to the title of this bill.

G. W. ATKINSON,

Governor.

Charleston, West Virginia, February 22, 1901.

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SENATE BILL NO. 134.

*Veto by the Governor.*

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The only object or purpose of this bill that I can conceive of, is to furnish the lawyers of the State advanced copies of the decisions of the Supreme Court of Appeals, at the expense of the State.

If such law were necessary, I would cheerfully approve the same. But as I see it, there is no sort of use for such measure. "The Southeastern Reporter" publishes in advance, weekly, all of the decisions of the Supreme Courts of five States, including West Virginia, and places such decisions in the hands of the various attorneys of the State, not later than one month after they are rendered. Moreover, "The West Virginia State Bar," a monthly publication, prints the syllabi of all decisions of our highest court. Therefore, I cannot understand why the State of West Virginia should be required to publish, at public expense, what is nothing more nor less than a monthly or weekly magazine, for the convenience of the attorneys of the State.

The provision requiring the Secretary of State to be an agent of the State to sell such publication, will prove futile, because the sale of the same to the various attorneys will amount practically to nothing in a dollars and cents point of view.

If attorneys desire to know, in advance, the doings of our Supreme Court of Appeals, it will cost them but a small stipend to find out what is being done, by subscribing for a private publication, which will be placed upon their tables even in advance of the publication required by this bill.

For these reasons, I veto this bill, and I believe every intelligent West Virginia lawyer will say I am right in so acting.

G. W. ATKINSON,

Governor.

Charleston, February 26, 1901.

SENATE BILL NO. 86.

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*Governor Atkinson's Opinion Thereon.*

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This bill was maturely considered by the Legislature of this State, and it was the sentiment of both branches of the same that West Virginia needed more stringent laws relative to the protection and preservation of the fish in the waters of this State. The law, as it formerly existed, made it a misdemeanor only for dynamiting fish, and did not provide for ladders by means of which fish could ascend and descend the various streams of the State where dams were constructed therein. This bill makes the dynamiting of fish a felony, and requires the construction of fish ladders by all persons who maintain dams across the various water courses of the State. It is contended before me that the construction of fish ladders will interfere with the lumber commerce in our creeks and rivers. I have looked into this question with great carefulness, and while I am aware of the fact that the navigable waters of the State belong to and are controlled by the United States government, and that the branches of the same, which are necessarily feeders, are also in a measure under the control of the United States, yet I cannot see that the simple requirement of the construction of a fish ladder at each dam erected for the purpose of commerce, can, in any sense, disturb the lumber traffic in our creeks and rivers, nor can I understand why such requirement can be construed as a hardship to those persons who, in the conduct of their business, find it necessary to construct dams across the various rivers and creeks of the State. My information is that a fish ladder is a very cheap affair, and for any ordinary dam cannot cost more than \$20 to \$30. These ladders, at all seasons of the year will afford proper ingress and egress for fish, which every one concedes is a large food commodity in this State.

There are dams now situated in some of our rivers which are an absolute block to the passage of fish up stream. The purpose of this law is to prevent the destruction of fish by the use of dynamite, and also to facilitate the travel of fish up and down rivers and creeks of West Virginia waterways. While I would not, under any circumstances, allow an act of the Legislature to become a law if I were satisfied that it would interfere seriously with the lumber traffic of the State, which is one of our largest industries, if I could prevent it, yet this bill cannot be

construed as such an interference. Therefore, I deem it my duty to approve the same.

G. W. ATKINSON,  
Governor.

Charleston, February 26, 1901.

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SENATE BILL NO. 181.

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*Veto by the Governor.*

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The adoption of this bill was among the last acts of the Legislative session of the present year. The purpose of the bill is, according to the title of the same, "to increase the revenues of the State." While it is an independent act of the Legislature, it is nevertheless an amendment to sections two and eighteen of Chapter XXXIV of the Code, and its evident purpose is to define in more specific terms what person or persons connected directly or indirectly with insurance business, shall be regarded as agents or solicitors of insurance within the limits of this State.

Section two of Chapter XXXIV of the Code, requires every person who may be engaged, directly or indirectly, in soliciting life or fire insurance within this State, to procure from the Auditor a certificate to authorize him to engage in such business, and, indeed, makes it unlawful to engage in such business without securing such permit. Sub-division eleven of said section two provides that if any person shall act as agent or broker in soliciting insurance within this State, without having first procured a certificate of the Auditor of the State to authorize him to act as such agent or broker, and without having the same renewed annually, he shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and his certificate as such agent or broker, shall be revoked, and he cannot have the same revived within three years thereafter. That is to say, if any insurance agent or broker in West Virginia shall violate this specific provision, he is barred from acting either as an agent or broker in the insurance business in West Virginia for the term of three years.

Section 18 of Chapter XXXIV of the Code of 1899, which in no respect has been disturbed by either of the two bills passed by the recent session of the Legislature, pertaining to the business of fire and life insurance in this State, provides in specific terms, that no person shall engage in the insurance business in West Virginia, either as agent, sub-agent or broker by writing



or causing to be written, any insurance policy of any kind whatever, in a direct or indirect way, without first having procured from the Auditor a certificate of authority authorizing him to act in such capacity. This provision even goes still further and applies to every person who may be engaged in any manner whatever in soliciting insurance risks—fire or life—issuing or obtaining the issuing of insurance policies, selling tickets of insurance, or doing or aiding others engaged in the insurance business to do any act pertaining to the business of insurance, and provides a penalty of a fine of not less than \$20.00 nor more than \$200.00 for every offense for so doing. Surely, it seems to me, that this provision is sufficiently drastic to inhibit all sub-agents, brokers or spotters from any serious interference with the legitimate business of fire and life insurance within the limits of the State.

Section two of this bill (House Bill No. 181), is entirely too severe and exacting in this, that it, beyond question, inhibits all clerks and messengers employed in insurance offices within the State, from receiving or collecting, directly or indirectly, any premiums pertaining to insurance, without first having received from the Auditor a certificate authorizing him to so act; and section three affixes a fine of not less than \$25.00 nor more than \$100.00 for each particular offense for so doing. Unquestionably the Legislature did not intend to go to this extreme in its honest endeavor to place under proper surveillance the business of insurance within the State of West Virginia.

House Bill No. 49 was passed by the Legislature about the middle of the session of the present year, and I approved the same shortly after its passage. This bill, like the one now before me (Senate Bill No. 181), is an independent act of the legislative body, and its object is to regulate the writing of insurance policies on property or lives within the State of West Virginia. The manifest purpose of House Bill No. 49 is not only to increase the revenue of the State, but to protect the citizens of the State engaged in the business of insurance, from innovations of persons outside the State, who are engaged in the same business and who represent insurance companies which are not authorized to do business in this State, from coming within the limits of the State and writing risks on the property or lives of our citizens. No one can question the justness of this measure. It is plainly to be seen that an insurance company (either fire or life) which refuses to pay any tax whatever to maintain the government of this State, ought not to be allowed to send its agents into our territory to carry on business in competition and opposition to other insurance companies, which in all respects are as reliable and safe as theirs, that have agreed to pay taxes on a portion of their earnings from our West Virginia people, to aid in main-

taining a proper proportion of their share of the expenses of the government of this State. Such action should be inhibited, and this bill does it, and it is therefore, in my judgment, proper legislation.

Senate Bill No. 181 is intended to define more specifically the provisions of sections two and eighteen of Chapter XXXIV of the Code of 1899, which sections are not repealed by either this bill or House Bill No. 49, as to what persons shall be classed as agents in soliciting insurance. Sections two and eighteen of Chapter XXXIV of the Code will remain the law of this State, even if I should allow the bill now before me (Senate Bill No. 181), to become a law; and inasmuch as said sections provide that no person shall solicit insurance, either as an agent direct for any insurance company, or as a broker or sub-agent in the insurance business, without first having procured a certificate from the Auditor to so act as such agent or broker, under the severe penalties therein prescribed, I therefore cannot see the necessity for the enactment of the bill now before me.

The active insurance agents of the State seem to be united in the belief that Senate Bill No. 181 is to them clearly surplusage, and is in conflict with House Bill No. 49, which I have already approved, and also in conflict with such provisions of Chapter XXXIV of the Code, which have not been repealed. While I do not fully agree with them in their contention, yet I cannot see how the passage of Senate Bill No. 181 can, in any way, add to the revenues of the State, or in any respect protect insurance companies that have complied with our statute which authorizes them to do business within this State, further than they are now protected by existing law. Fearing, however, that unnecessary complications may arise, as the result of the adoption of both House Bill No. 49 and Senate Bill No. 181, and also because of its extreme features in some of its provisions, I accordingly veto Senate Bill No. 181.

G. W. ATKINSON,

Governor.

Charleston, February 27, 1901.

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#### EXECUTIVE PROCLAMATION.

Whereas, At the November term, 1900, of the circuit court of Wirt county, West Virginia, Sam Sheppard was convicted of the charge of murder in the first degree, and was sentenced to be hung, at the penitentiary, March 1st, next; and

WHEREAS, An appeal was taken to the Supreme Court of Appeals in the case, upon alleged errors in the trial of the case in the circuit court of said county, which appeal has not been disposed of, and cannot be determined before the day fixed for the execution of the said Sheppard; and

WHEREAS, Messrs. Brown and Casto, counsel for Sheppard, have requested me to grant a stay of execution for the period of ninety days, until a determination of the appeal by the Supreme Court of Appeals of the State;

Therefore, I, George W. Atkinson, Governor of the State of West Virginia, in the interest of public justice, do grant unto the said Sam Sheppard a respite of ninety (90) days from the first day of March, 1901; and should the Supreme Court of Appeals refuse to grant to him a new trial, I hereby direct the warden of the penitentiary of the State of West Virginia, at the expiration of this respite, to execute the said Sheppard in accordance with the sentence of the circuit court of Wirt county.

Given under my hand and the seal of the State,  
[Seal.] at the capital, this 28th day of February, A. D., 1901, and in the 38th year of the State.

G. W. ATKINSON,  
Governor.

WM. M. O. DAWSON,  
Secretary of State.

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REMARKS OF GOVERNOR GEO. W. ATKINSON, MARCH  
4, 1901, PRIOR TO HIS INTRODUCTION OF GOVERN-  
OR-ELECT WHITE, TO THE PEOPLE, TO BE  
INSTALLED INTO OFFICE.

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*My Fellow Citizens of West Virginia:*

In retiring from a four years term as the Chief Executive officer of the State, I beg your indulgence in offering a few general remarks, before I introduce to you my successor in office.

Under our Constitution, it is the duty of the Governor to see that all of the laws of the State are properly enforced; and yet, as a matter of fact, he possesses but little absolute power over matters of government. You will not be advised, therefore, of what I have personally done during the administration just closed, as what the observing of you have seen done by the official establishment of the State.

That West Virginia has grown, almost marvelously, during the past quadrennium, no one will question. We have seen our



output of carbon oil reach nearly twenty million barrels in the year 1900, giving us first place, in that production, of all the States. We have grown to second place in the production of coke, and the increase in the coal mined in 1900 over 1896, is greater than the entire production of the State in 1890. Our output of coke in 1900 was 2,496,107 tons,—an increase of 81.6 per cent. over 1897, and our output of coal in 1900 was 22,000,000 tons, an increase of 61.3 per cent. over 1897. We are now the third—and will be second within a year or two—of all the coal producing States in the Union. In the lumber industry, we have made equally rapid strides in development. While in agricultural growth, we have surprised ourselves, as well as others outside of the State who have taken notice of us. Our West Virginia hills and vales are fertile, the climate is good, and our farmers are coming steadily to the front. Taxes are reasonably low, and we have conscientiously and rigidly enforced our laws, and withal we have been just to all concerned.

We have expended on public buildings and public improvements upwards of a half-million dollars more money during the past four years, than during any preceding quadrennium, without increasing the rate of taxation, and have more money in the treasury than ever before at this season of the year, and all bills against the State have been paid and no debts contracted.

Mountaineers always love liberty. Our West Virginia people therefore are specially devoted to freedom. Love of country, next to love of home, is the sheet-anchor of society. A people established in patriotism are strong individually, and when associated for political purposes, suggest great possibilities. Patriotism has figured conspicuously in setting the standard of West Virginia character. It is a fact worthy of note that our sturdy West Virginians stubbornly refused to be dragged into rebellion against the flag, and what is now the territory of this State always remained loyal to the Union. Happily our school children are taught the lives and characters of the country's founders and defenders, and that purity, principle and justice may continue to predominate in the affairs of State. The study of the careers of Washington and Lincoln should be kept up, until the deeds of their noble lives are reflected in the conduct of coming generations. The American flag should float above every school house, and our children should be taught to reverence and defend it as they would their own homes and firesides, because respect for the flag creates national pride, and in this manner all citizens become patriots.

The firm, determined character of West Virginians is becoming well known, and will, sooner or later, become historic. Mountain reared men are always ambitious, and ambition, mixed with brains, cannot easily be suppressed. The proud acts of our men are now the envy of ambition. We boast of good government, and upon this depends the safe guarding of every

interest of our people. We have no classes or caste,—all are freemen, and all have but one ideal and destiny—that of exalted citizenship.

Much, my friends, that I started out to accomplish has been left undone, and yet what has been done, I trust, has been for the good of one and all. Some of us are partisans, but above and behind it is a greater love for country and State. I would have done much more, but the times seemingly were not ripe for the introduction of many changes, which to me appeared as ideals. These will come later on. Happily the world is moving forward—not backward, and I look for greater growth under my distinguished successor along the lines which I have endeavored to blaze out.

We are living under a new dispensation in the government of our commonwealth, and I believe it is generally conceded that the masses have not suffered by the change. With rapid and steady step our State is marching to the front. We possess natural resources in many respects unsurpassed. In this driving, work-a-day age, it is a question, in business, as in everything else, of the survival of the fittest. Having the best qualities and the greatest quantities of coal and oil and gas and timber, rich soil and a climate and location unsurpassed, West Virginia inevitably, in these great resources, must lead all of the other sister States.

I beg to urge upon my successor, and I know he will not fail in this respect, the maintenance of high ideals in educational and moral work and worth, upon which, more than all things else, must depend the progress and prosperity of the State.

It is gratifying to me, my fellow citizens, that the great political party to which I have the honor to belong, remains in the ascendancy in the "Mountain State." It is a party of the present and of the people. To act, to assume responsibilities, to go at every problem to solve and settle it,—this is the genius of the Republican party. It despises evasions, it detests compromises, it rejoices in opportunities. For more than a quarter of a century, nearly every line of American history is but the life-story of the Republican party; and yet, while I believe all this is true, it is the duty of the Chief Executive of a State, to rise above party in order that he may subserve the interests of all the people. The people are the State, and their interests should at all times be guarded and protected. Knowing my successor as I do, I am sure he will be just and reasonable and fair, and I bespeak for him a brilliant and successful administration.

A word or two more, in conclusion. As I retire from the Executive chair of State, I desire to thank all my fellow citizens of the State I love and whose interests and development I have done my utmost to advance, for their confidence and support. I desire also to thank my friends not only for elevating me to the highest office in the State, but for their counsel and support in

times of trial, which often bordered on distress. As we cross the threshold of a new century, in which the art of human government and composition of citizenship will have wider and greater possibilities than ever before, let us look to God for courage, love and humanity, which shall keep West Virginia in the national constellation of States the bright star that shall never set.

My countrymen, I take unfeigned pleasure in introducing to you my successor as the Governor of your State, the Honorable Albert B. White, of Parkersburg, an educated, broad-minded, able, generous, manly man, a patriot and a Republican in whom there is no guile.

Thanking you again for past favors, and for the courtesies of this occasion, I bid you God speed and a final adieu.





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